The date on which your subscription expires will be found on the wrapper.

The paper will be stopped on that day unless previously renewed.

No bills or receipts sent to individual subscribers.

The People.

Agents, sending in subscriptions without remittance must state distinctly how long they are to run.

Agents are personally charged with and held responsible for unpaid subscriptions sent in by them.

Only duly elected and approved agents acknowledged.

VOL. VIII.—NO. 9. NEW YORK, MAY 29 1898. PRICE 2 CENTS.

FAMINE IN IRELAND.

Conditions Brought on By the Government Ours Wishes to Ally With.

DUBLIN, Ireland, May 22—It is possible that even amid the excitement of the Cuban War and despite the all-absorbing labors of the S. L. P. of America in its prosecution of the far more important class war, there may have reached the United States some information sufficiently explicit to bring home to the minds of our Comrades there the alarming fact that in Ireland at the present moment a large section of the population are suffering from a lack of food, amounting to actual famine.

But as such news is bound to be discounted in its importance by the fact that it only filters through to the people by the medium of a sensational press; and as it is almost certain to be accompanied by suggestions for remedies ridiculously inapplicable to the evil itself, I have ventured to set down here a few of the facts which came under my own observation, in a recent tour through the distressed districts, and also some of the reflections which as a Socialist were forced upon me by these facts.

THE FAMINE STRICKEN DISTRICTS.

The particular district through which I extended my investigations is that known as the County of Kerry. My tour comprised within its area the portion of the county extending from the town of Kenmore round the southwest coast to what is known as the town of Cahireineen. This is the famine-stricken district of that county. It is composed almost entirely of mountains and bog land.

From the point of view of the picturesque nothing can be finer than this countryside, sea and mountain combining to charm the eye; but from the point of view of the people who have to extract a living from the cultivation of the soil no place on earth would be more dismal or less encouraging. There is no such thing as a large farm in the neighborhood, from five to twenty acres being as a rule the extent of holdings, and the dwellings of the people, exterior and interior, being of the rudest and most comfortless description. Almost all the population engage during the season in the fishing off the coast in their own boats, but as these vessels are only of the smallest description they can not venture far from land, and in consequence they have had, during the past year, the mortification of seeing the larger and better equipped boats of other nations come to their shores and reap the harvest of the sea before it reached them. At the same time the potato crop was attacked with the blight and the greater part of it destroyed, rendered quite unfit for food, and as the potato forms the staple diet of the entire people this second loss was indeed the crowning stroke to their misery. Round a great part of this district it is the custom for the shopkeepers to advance the necessaries of life to their customers during the winter and spring, and to receive repayment for same out of the proceeds of the fishing in the summer, but the practical failure of the fishing last year rendered the latter engagement impossible. The debts remain unpaid, the credit of the customers with the shopkeeper and of the shopkeeper with the wholesale merchant is now exhausted, bankruptcy is imminent, and starvation walks abroad through the land.

INTENSITY OF DISTRESS.

I have personally visited and verified numerous cases in which the whole family have not even had the luxury of potatoes since September, 1897, but have been living for months upon TWO diets, and for weeks upon ONE DIET PER DAY, and that diet composed exclusively of Indian meal and water, without even milk to wash it down. I have conversed with schoolmasters who told of children fainting on the schoolroom floor for want of food. I have seen women, mothers of families, for the sake of half a dollar's worth of provisions walk seven miles to a relief committee, wait three or four hours and then have to walk the same distance back, have heard from the lips of eye-witnesses (whose credibility I can vouch for) of the produce of shellfish mixed with meal and boiled in water being eagerly devoured by one famishing family, and of the carcass of a diseased cow serving as food to another, have visited districts in which disease (to which this physical weakness brought on by hunger makes these people peculiarly subject) had seized nearly every house, until the place was justly described as "one vast hospital," in short, I have in one short tour of three weeks' duration seen an amount of misery so great as to justify the sufferers and all humane men in taking every means in their power to hurl into destruction the power whose administrators and "statesmen" either could not or would not remedy the evil and prevent its occurrence.

BOURGEOIS LEADERS AND GUIDES.

But the leaders of the Irish people at present are themselves as little capable of formulating any real remedy for the evil that even were the forces of England annihilated to-morrow, and our Home Rule politicians installed in power, the economic conditions which have produced the present famine would be left untouched and at full liberty to work similar ruin in the future. Greater promptitude in coming to the relief of the sufferers we undoubtedly would have, more liberal application of public funds to the relief of distress might certainly be expected, but any statesmanlike effort to PREVENT FAMINE BY REMOVING THE CAUSE would only come by the application to agriculture of those "wild" Socialist theories for which our bourgeois patriots have, or profess, such an aversion. For these people I have spoken of are not suffering because of the existence in their midst of an "alien" government, but because of the failure of that system of small farming and small industry on which they depended for their existence, to overcome the natural difficulties presented by their rugged coast and moist climate. Even landlordism, the curse of the Irish race in times past, and the clog and hindrance of all administrative bodies in the present, is only in a minor degree responsible for the present crisis. The root cause lies in the system of small farming and small industry. Isolated on his little plot of ground which in the best of times scarcely affords more than a bare subsistence, the Irish peasant reaps none of the benefits of the progress of civilization, knows nothing of the wonderful results of the organization of industry, his mental horizon is bounded by the weekly "patriot" newspaper crammed with tales and legends of ancient Erin and her chivalry, and destitute of all scientific or economic enlightenment to help the Irish of to-day, and thus when the full hand of disease is stretched forth over the poor potato crop each peasant strives to avert the catastrophe by his own effort and thus falls an easy victim to the blight which an organized people could easily avert or render innoccuous. In the present instance the two disasters which combined to produce the famine, were both directly due to the want of such co-operative effort as it would be the first duty of a Socialist republic to organize, and without such Socialist reorganization the perpetual recurrence of these scenes of misery may be regarded as a certainty, no matter whether our government be Irish or English, alien or native.

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE IRISH AND ENGLISH CAPITALIST POLITICIANS in this matter may be briefly stated as follows: The Irish member of Parliament is invariably a political adventurer depending upon notoriety to demonstrate his usefulness to the party paymasters, therefore he must occasionally create a "scene" in the House of Commons, or make a "fiery" speech outside. Thus does he earn his salary and justify his existence to those who subscribe it. The English member of Parliament, on the other hand, is as a rule a wealthy capitalist who occupies his position in virtue of his having made certain donations to the party exchequer, of being donor-in-chief to local charities and chief financial mainstay of the local branch of his party organization. Therefore he is not expected to show signs of political activity, but only of a plethoric purse. THE IRISH NATIONALIST POLITICIAN IS THE FINANCIAL DEPENDENT OF HIS PARTY, THE ENGLISH POLITICAL PARTIES ARE THE FINANCIAL DEPENDENTS OF THE CAPITALIST POLITICIANS. To use a homely simile, the difference between the English and Irish bourgeois politicians is simply the difference of attitude between the man who has caught a train and the man who is running to catch it. The English party politician comfortably ensconced in the train of fully dominant capitalism, only requires to SIT TIGHT and smile his scorn of the voting cattle whom he calls his fellow-countrymen, but the Irish party politician not yet able to realize an assured income independent of political activity, has not caught the train, and in his rush for it avails himself of every means possible to win the favor of his fellow countrymen that they might be induced to help him into the same position as his English rival.

CLASS DISTINCTIONS AND POLITICS.

The mass of the Irish people being engaged in agriculture, the Irish "patriot" bourgeois seeks to win their favor by demanding legislative enactments in the interest of the farming community, Land Courts to give fair rents (?), compulsory purchase of landed estates in order to establish peasant proprietory, State help in constructing railways, State subsidies for lines of Irish steamships trading for Irish ports, government loans for harbor construction; in fact, he invokes the aid of the State in a manner calculated to put to blush even the most hardened Fabian, and seemingly totally inconsistent with that individualism on which capitalism is based. But when measures in behalf of the working class are mooted, when legislative interference between capital and labor is the subject of debate, then the identity of interests between the English and the Irish bourgeois is made at once apparent by the all but unanimous front both parties present against such "interference with the liberty of the subject."

In this respect, it will be observed, they are only repeating the tactics of the bourgeois parties of all countries. Grasping the power of the State, they have ever used it remorselessly in their fight against the pretensions of the landed aristocracy, regarding it then as their savior and a potent instrument of the world's welfare; but once freed from the danger of aristocratic domination and confronted by a demand that the State power should extent its beneficent operations over the entire community, and raise the wage-slave in his turn to freedom, then the State becomes to the bourgeois anathema, rarely fit to serve as a gigantic policeman for the protection of the private property and furtherance of the private interests of the possessing class.

THE ENGLISH CAPITALIST PARTIES (LIBERALS OR RADICALS) had always looked upon the Irish with contempt in the past, until the year 1885, when a lightning flash of class-consciousness suddenly illumining their understanding they recognized in the Irish Home Rulers the image of their own younger brothers, seeking to realize the same ends as themselves, by methods foreign to the English bourgeois of to-day perhaps, but nevertheless wonderfully similar to those his fathers had employed at a similar stage of their economic development. Out of the sudden recognition of this economic affinity arose, over the Irish Home Rule bill, the so-called Union of Hearts (of the Irish and English politicians), a pitiful travesty of that free union of free peoples which Socialism alone can bring to fruition. But this alliance from which Irishmen hoped so much was of necessity short-lived. The Englishman, at first cordial in his friendship to the Irish agitator who only wished to mould Ireland on the political and economic pattern of England, suddenly cooled off when he reflected that if the political freedom of Ireland would indeed hasten the economic development of that country, then English manufacturers would be the first to suffer by the entrance on the industrial battlefield of such a competitor. Better keep Ireland fettered, even at the cost of a standing military garrison, than to allow her freedom and see her develop into another rival in the race for the markets of the world.

The Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain and most of the wealthier men of the Liberal party had reasoned so all along and therefore remained Liberal Unionists, opposed to Home Rule and Irish measures in general. After the first flush of their love for Ireland had cooled a little, and given time for the selfish passions to reassert their sway, such arguments and reasoning made such wonderful headway among "the leaders of public opinion" throughout England that the Home Rule proposal at the very next election received a crushing defeat from which it is questionable if it will ever recover.

THE HOME RULE BILL.

As Ireland lacks nearly all the requisites for an industrial country, the fear that inspired this revulsion of public opinion was, I believe, entirely baseless, but the result itself is by no means regrettable. The Home Rule bill was in fact perhaps the greatest legislative abortion ever foisted upon a people in the name of self-government. The net result of all this play and counter-play of political and social forces during the last twenty years is the utter discomfiture of the middle class politicians, the falsification of all their prophecies, and the wreck of all their organizations. Added to this the various "splits" in the Home Rule camp, by leading the politicians to attack one another, have revealed to the astonished eyes of the multitude the sorry character of the men whom they once idolized.

THE EFFECT OF THIS SITUATION upon the problem caused by the present famine may be briefly told. The Anglish Liberal allies of the Home Rule party represent, as I have pointed out, a fully capitalist nation, or, more accurately speaking, a nation in which capitalism is generally dominant and no longer requires the aid of the State to maintain its internal prestige over reactionary forces. In such a country and to such a party the State is a veritable Frankenstein, and to the dominant class a thing to be restricted and fettered in every way. But the Home Rule party represent an imperfectly developed country, in which LAND and not CAPITAL is dominant, and which, therefore, requires the aid of the State to free itself from the fetters of feudalism. The famine, the direct product of this imperfectly developed state of industry and agriculture, can only be effectually grappled with by the State, and thereupon the Home Ruler advocates State aid, but in so doing receives little if any aid from the English Liberal, who instinctively shrinks from any proposal which might tend to popularize the idea of State interference. Thus the Home Ruler, our Irish bourgeois politician, is landed in a hopeless dilemma. He knows he will be utterly ruined without the English Liberal alliance, nobody will believe in him, nobody will subscribe his salary, he will be dropped like a useless tool. And the English Liberals will not assist him in his demand for State aid, if he pushes it, they will relinquish him. But his constituents, the Irish agricultural population, who believe State aid to be their only hope, will repudiate him if he does not demand it. In such a hopeless quandary the Irish patriot parties, save the mark, flounder along without a definite policy, without a programme, without hope for the future, each separate party seeking to hide its confusion by emitting, like the cuttle fish, a shower of abuse upon its rivals, who retaliate in kind, until the waters of Irish politics stink in the nostrils of decent Irishmen.

Two recent plans prove this:

First—Thanks to the clashing of bourgeois interests, the famine pursues its way unchecked.

Second—The class-conscious Irish members grow in strength, in hope and in public confidence.

JAMES CONNOLLY.

The numerous calls that have come in for the New Bedford speech "What Means This Strike?" published in these columns a few weeks ago, has determined the National Executive Committee to reprint it in pamphlet form. It can be had at the Labor News Company, 64 E. 4th street, this city. Single copies, 5 cents; 10 copies, 30 cents; 100 copies, $2.50.

OUR TRAITORS.

The Debate in Congress on War Expenditures.

Attitude of the Silver and the Gold Disputants—They Are Agreed Upon Utilizing the War, that they Themselves Brought on, to the Purposes they Had in View by Bringing it on: Plunder—They are Violently at Odds how the Plunder Shall be Divided Between Them—Each Wants an Outlet for his own Metal.

It is now fully a month since a fierce debate is going on in Congress. The subject of dispute is a certain bill to provide ways and means to meet the present war expenditures. Roughly speaking, the combatants are divided on party lines—Republicans on one side, Demo-Populists on the other. On the Republican side, the bill, as presented, is supported, including a clause to issue interest-bearing bonds to the amount of $500,000,000; on the Demo-Populist side, the bill, as a whole, is generally supported, but objection is raised to the bonds-issuing clause. The battle raged on that point in the House, where the bill originated and was put through; now it is raging in the Senate on the same point.

The arguments on the two sides are substantially suppressed by the capitalist press. Occasionally a casual remark is published as having been made by one side or the other. But nothing like a reproduction of the scene that has been enacting in Congress is given. And for good reason. An approximate photograph of what is going on could not fail to convey to the masses some idea of the treason that is going on in Congress, and which, not one, but both combatants are engaged in. This is the situation:

The Secretaries of War and Navy have submitted estimates of what the war expenditures are expected to be. The largest of these estimates does not go beyond $25,000,000 a month, and all of them claim that the war will not last three months. Provision for $100,000,000 would, accordingly, be ample. The bill, however, demands authority to issue interest-bearing bonds to the amount of $500,000,000, i. e., for $200,000,000 more than it is expected the war will cost if it last a whole year. Evidently the Republican capitalists are anxious to make hay while the sun shines. No less anxious are their Democratic doubles, as will appear.

Now, then, our two sets of "patriots" lock horns in Congress upon this issue. And what are their arguments?

On the Republican side it is urged that the country is in danger; at such times the chaffering over a dollar more or less is not only unbecoming but unpatriotic. Our soldiers are moving, our Navy is in the front, our flag is imperilled unless sustained. Is this the time for unseemly partisan wrangles? Is this the time for petty party quarrels? The country needs money. The country asks for it. It is the duty of every patriotic American to give it. Vote for this bill and for the bond issue. —Thus speak the Republicans.

Thereupon the Demo-Populist side puts in as follows: It is true the country is in peril; it is true it needs money; and we are ready to give it; but we are not ready to give it in the way you want; you can have all the money you want, provided you take silver.

What does all this mean? It means that both sides are trying to sell out the country to her real foes—the Capitalist Class, with only this difference that each is trying to sell her out to his special subdivision of capitalism, and, above all, that both are united in protecting the robber class, that now holds the plunder, and in leaving exposed the robbed class—the working class.

We ARE at war. No use now and here inquiring why and how. That subject is of proper consideration only by those who understand it to be a capitalist (silver as well as gold) scheme to plunder the people. This being so, neither side cares to go into that question; both sides agree upon upholding its false pretences. We ARE at war. How shall the war be supported? As it is not the honor of the nation that the Republicans are safeguarding by the war, but the material interests of the gold upper capitalists, the only use they have for the war is the use they are putting it to, to wit, afford opportunities for the bankers to invest their moneys, and incidentally to give contracts to favorite railroad and other companies. This purpose appears clear in the demand for a bond issue grossly in excess of requirements. What in sight of this fact should be the attitude of men, who, besides posing as patriots, pose as the representatives of the working class, as the Silverites are doing? It should be this:

"We ARE at war. We shall presently look into and expose the secret springs that have brought us into this trouble. But this is not the hour. The war burns upon our hands; we must meet the exigency it presents. If we don't provide for it, the country will be invaded and ruined. Accordingly it is against ruin we must provide. Only in that sense can we provide for the war. But for that very reason, for the reason that our course must be to provide against ruin, it is political felony for us to provide AGAINST one sort of ruin by deliberately providing FOR another sort of ruin. If the Spaniard invade the country, the ruin that will follow is the enslavement of our people. Felonious is the proposition that amounts to providing against that by a scheme that provides for the enslavement of our people to the international capitalist. This bonds issue does that because it is a way of providing for aid from capital in a way that capital profits by, while we are providing for soldiers in a way that the soldiers cannot profit by. The money loaned on bonds is to be

(Continued on Page 4.)

BUTCHERS' CLERKS.

A Letter to Them From Section Yonkers, N. Y., S. L. P.

That the present issues which any one subdivision of the working class is confronted with in its particular trade are not private issues, peculiar to that one trade and settleable by that trade alone, but are the broad issue between the working class and its oppressor, the capitalist class; and that redress can come to none without the united, class-conscious effort of the subdivisions of the wage earners,—these are important lessons to be taught the workingmen. The below communication, adressed by order of Section Yonkers of the S. L. P. to the butchers' clerks of that town, handles the subject well:

YONKERS, N. Y., May 17, 1898.

To the Butchers' Clerks of Yonkers.

Brothers:—We have read with great interest your letter in the Yonkers "Herald" of May 16, 1898, and also the editorial comments of said paper under the same date.

We understand that your request for help and support is addressed more particularly to the working class, and, therefore, we, the members of the Yonkers Section, Socialist Labor party, believe that we have a right to inform you of what we think of your letter.

We must point out to you:

FIRST—That the issue that you have raised is not confined to the butchers but, in one way or other, concerns the working people of all trades and occupations.

SECOND—That it is not a local question, concerning Yonkers alone, but that it is of the utmost importance to the fifteen hundreds of millions of human beings who inhabit this earth.

THIRD—That under the present system of society, the capitalistic system of profit-making, people who are necessarily divided into two classes, the interests of which are always conflicting: the class of the exploiters or capitalists, and that of the exploited or wage-workers, to which latter class both you and we belong.

FOURTH—That the class of the capitalists not only possesses nearly all the wealth, but also completely controls the government in all its branches—legislative, executive, and judiciary. Therefore it is able to keep you, us and all the wage-workers in subjection.

FIFTH—That, according to your own letter, the opposition of ONE MAN can, and does nullify all your efforts.

SIXTH—That any man may at any time do the same thing again and bring back the old condition of things, even if you should temporarily succeed.

SEVENTH—That your request could be easily and permanently satisfied, by means of legislation, and besides all the innumerable grievances of the working class could be rectified, if your, our own class were in power.

EIGHTH—That the working class is not in power but in contempt because you, and millions like you, put the capitalist class into power on Election Day by voting for its candidates.

NINTH—That all parties and all candidates, except the Socialist Labor party and its candidates, belong to the capitalist class. Mind you, they are not all capitalists, but those who are not belong to the capitalists in the sense that they are paid or hired by them and do their bidding.

TENTH—That we are speaking to you not only in our own name, but also in the name of three hundred and twenty Socialist voters, in Yonkers, of fifty thousand Socialist voters in the United States, of more than six million Socialist voters all over the civilized world, who are all workingmen, wage-workers like you, and finally in the name of all the Socialist women in the world, who as yet have no vote.

ELEVENTH—That we, speaking for all the afore mentioned Socialists, are willing to do as much for you, as you are ready to do for us, otherwise we must act on the principle that wise men cannot help but must leave stubborn fools to their fate. You must understand that all the poor, all the exploited wage-workers, are all in the same fix and can only emancipate themselves by casting their lots together, by uniting in one class-conscious labor party, such as the Socialist Labor party is.

TWELFTH—That if the poor prefer to buy their meat late, it may be for one or several good reasons, which arise from their present miserable condition as wage-workers, and for which therefore not they, but the upholders (to which you belong yourselves, as long as you have not joined us), beneficiaries of the capitalist system, are responsible, and which you may find out if you will take the trouble of investigating the matter, viz., because they have to go to work very early, or because they cannot afford to have ice boxes, and to have ice in the same, or for other reasons.

THIRTEENTH—That we do not attempt to deceive you, by giving you taffy, but are trying in a manly and straightforward manner to tell you what we believe to be the truth.

In conclusion, we offer to make all the arrangements for a lecture on this subject, by a competent lecturer, at our expense, if you will guarantee a full attendance of your people.

Yours fraternally,
by order of the Yonkers Section, Socialist Labor party,
EDMUND MULLER,
124 Waverly street.

P. S. Our headquarters are at the Chelsea Building, 36 North Broadway, where we meet every Tuesday night, and where you are all welcome, if you wish to get more information about Socialism.

'TIS COMING OUT!

Heavy Money Bribes Received by Anti-Socialist "Leaders."

A Capitalist Admits to Have Paid the Sum of $10,000 to a Labor Fakir to "Settle" a Railroad Strike—The New Trade Unionist Theory that the "Pure and Simple" Leader Has an Interest in Cultivating Ignorance Among the Rank and File, and the Policy of Ruthless Warfare Upon that Traitor Approved by an Important Discovery.

DULUTH, Minn., May 23—Every passing day reveals more and more to the American Labor movement the wisdom of the policy of clear-cut, bold and uncompromising aggression pursued by THE PEOPLE, and that it is perfectly justified in its unceasing cannonade against the Labor Fakirs. It is not to be wondered at that those miserable, characterless specimens of "leaders" should squirm, and, drawing themselves behind the bulwarks of the "trade journals," revile and slander THE PEOPLE, and seek to poison the minds of their "pure and simple" dupes; tell them to "look out for the Socialists, they want to smash our unions," "We would have won against the reduction had not the Sccialists scabbed it." Miserable wretches, they know full well the Socialists are not trying to smash the trades unions, but ARE smashing and WILL smash ONE UNION—and that is the "Brotherhood of Amalgamated Labor Leaders," i. e., Labor Fakirs.

It is to be regretted so many of the rank and file of the A. F. L. (for they are honest beyond question) do not cast aside these "journals" reeking with the fakirs' work, and use the brains, nature endowed them with. But, of course, were they to do this, they would land in the ranks of Socialism, no more to be the ignorant, unthinking dupes of the Labor Fakir, to be delivered by him, helplessly bound, over to the capitalist class for exploitation. The true meaning of THE PEOPLE battle cry, "Expose the Labor Fakir!" will in time be fully appreciated by the rank and file, and then—well, look out for the crash—extinct Labor Fakirs will be plenty.

The other day, on the streets of Duluth, Comrade Carl Thiel became engaged in conversation with Mr. J. G. Owens, a prominent railroad man; the conversation started with the great topic of the day—the war; it drifted from one point to another, until Mr. Owens, knowing Comrade Thiel to be a militant Socialist, made this admission, "It is plainly to be seen, the whole fabric of capitalism is crumbling and destroying itself and unconsciously ushering in Socialism." How's that?!!

From this Mr. Owens wandered to the industrial problem and incidentally—the trades unions (meaning, of course, the pure and simple). He said he had considerable dealings with them; "the trades unions will accomplish nothing permanently for labor, unless they form an independent political party; because the interests of the capitalist and workingman are directly opposed to each other."

It is positively refreshing to hear such words from a capitalist. Mr. Owens is undoubtedly a better student of our capitalist system than the wage workers who imagine "the capitalist and workingman are brothers." He also spoke of the labor "leader" (?) with whom he had transacted much business. He said while with the (Comrade Thiel believes Mr. Owens said the Duluth, South Shore and Atlantic R. R.) he (Mr. Owens) was authorized to settle the strike. And it was! This is the way it was done, in the words of Mr. Owens: "I, myself, paid over to President McArthur, of the Locomotive Firemen's Union, the sum of $10,000 to settle the strike." What will this union think of that!!!!

As Mr. Owens has told several other people the same thing it must be the truth, otherwise he would not say such a thing! It pays the Fakirs to "keep politics out of the union!" It pays to keep the rank and file in ignorance.

On to the slaughter of Labor Fakirs!!!

Comrade Thiel is willing to make an affidavit that Mr. Owens made this statement. Comrade Thiel got the information from Mr. Owens without "pumping," so did not wish to press the question as to what particular railroad he was manager for, and the strike be mentioned. Can The People throw any further light on this?

Yours fraternally,
LOUIS DWORSCHACK.

Mr. "Go" will now have to turn his eyes for a while westward, and see to the "union wreckers" there. Disgusted with the failu.es of "pure and simple-dom" and "Go's" bombast, a large chunk of the A. F. of L., located in the West, has torn away; but as yet being very dark on the labor movement, the seceders have not joined the S. T. & L. A., but have organized themselves into a body variously called the "Western Federation of Labor" or the "Western Labor Union." On the whole, this Western body is built upon a superior plane. It may develop into the proper thing. Mr. "Go's" never will.

The receipt of a sample copy of this paper is an invitation to subscribe.

THE PEOPLE.

Published at 184 William Street, New York
— EVERY SUNDAY. —

TERMS TO SUBSCRIBERS.
Invariably in advance:

One year	$0.50
Six months	0.25
Single copies	0.02

As far as possible, rejected communications will be returned if so desired and stamps are enclosed.

Entered as second-class matter at the New York, N. Y., Post office on April 6, 1891.

SOCIALIST VOTE IN THE UNITED STATES.

In 1888 (Presidential)	2,068
In 1890	13,331
In 1892 (Presidential)	21,157
In 1894	33,133
In 1896 (Presidential)	36,564
In 1897	**55,673**

A "movement" is a curious thing. It begins in hopelessness, thrives on opposition, lives by ridicule, matures by apathy, succeeds unnoticed, and then something quite simple happens as the result of years and years of apparently unproductive agitation, and the "movement" comes to a triumphal conclusion.

—Oxford, Eng., B. A.

DOWN WENT McCULLAGH.

The New York Chief of Police, who presumed to interfere with the freedom of action of a political party—the S. L. P.—, as known to our readers, is no more. In the language of the resolutions adopted at the Cooper Union on Monday, the 16th instant., he was morally and intellectually unfit, as well a menace to the peace of the city and the freedom of the people. Last Saturday he was removed.

• • •

This incident is worth closer contemplation. It was a relative of this identical McCullagh, an uncle of his, we believe, who some fifteen years ago distinguished himself by a savage performance of Socialist clubbing. The act was applauded. Such deeds served at that time as means for promotion, at least for becoming solid, and certainly as a cure for and cover of official malfeasance. The Cooper Union meeting may be thought by some to have been excessive in its denunciation of McCullagh as "intellectually unfit." His conduct proved the justice of the charge. His intellect is of such a low grade that he does not know, and, consequently, did not take into account, the changes that have taken place since his uncle's performance. The nephew argued, "My uncle profited fifteen years ago by outraging the Socialists; I am just now in hot water; if I now outrage the Socialists again, I also shall profit." And he did do the outrage,—with the result that he is now dumped. With the mental weakness, characteristic of all such people, he did not consider that, since his uncle's prowess, the Socialists have developed into a recognized political party in this State, and that, what could be done with total impunity fifteen years ago, becomes to-day an infinitely more difficult and more dangerous affair. McCullagh has found out that.

• • •

Of course, we form no illusions on the score of his successor. We are well aware that, notwithstanding the declaration of the Mayor, on the day of McCullagh's removal, that he would "tolerate no infringement of the rights of the citizens," evidently alluding to high-handed proceedings against the S. L. P., from the Mayor down, there is no capitalist politician who would not be ready to infringe any and all the rights of the working class, provided he thinks he can do so with impunity, and his class interests require it. But this stands out: Right, without might to enforce it, is less powerful than the virgin in the night. McCullagh's punishment might not have come but for whatever power the S. L. P. now enjoys; but neither is the S. L. P. after "punishments," nor, and much less, after such "punishments" that throw down one evil by setting up one quite as capable of the same crime. Its aim is the overthrow of a Social Wrong by the setting up of a Social Right; the overthrow of the Capitalist Class and the enthronement of the Working Class. To accomplish this Might is needed.

Agitate, educate, organize, to the end that McCullagh's fate be a symbol and forerunner of that of the whole Capitalist Class!

EDWARD BELLAMY.

Last Sunday, Edward Bellamy, the distinguished author of "Looking Backward," expired at his home in Chicopee Falls, after a lingering illness.

It may be too early to fully estimate the value of Bellamy's contribution to the oncoming Social Revolution, or the place he occupied in it. Only a tentative outline may here be ventured on.

Myths are not yet dead; not only do the old ones linger in the public mind, but new ones constantly crop up. Among the new myths of our age was the "individualism of the American," the saying being synonimous with a denial of the possibility of the Socialist idea ever taking root here. Bellamy smote that myth. What Cervante's "Don Quixote" was to the literature and fancy of knight errantry, Bellamy's "Looking Backward" was to the notion of the foreigness of Socialism in America. Neither fallacy survived the blow.

"Loking Backward" cut a wide swath. Its chaste plot, told in elegant language, was an atractive vehicle through which to convey an instruction that was a revelation to our people. We know of more than one, who, after reading the book, re-read it for the sake of the love story, and others who re-read it for the sake of the sociologic instruction conveyed. Since "Uncle Tom's Cabin," no novel had the run of "Looking Backward." It is safe to say that four years after its publication, the nation—its thinking element—was no longer what it had been. The mists of the myth that had clouded its judgment was lifted, or so thoroughly thinned that its intellectual eye could sweep a broader horizon.

No slight service this in the cause of human progress. It were a thankless task, premature, at this hour to follow Bellamy's personal career in the Movement after his work had given him the prominence he forthwith enjoyed. While he parted company with the organized Socialist Movement of the country, and, in our opinion, fell into tactical errors, nevertheless, at the bier of the Author of "Looking Backward," the Socialist has but one feeling uppermost, and to that feeling only he gives expression:—

Sorrow at the premature taking off of a striking figure in the Social Struggle of our day and our country.

A TYPICAL SIGHT.

Our American officers, the officers in whose keeping our national independence is placed, our national honor, and, with that, our traditions as a nation, performed last Tuesday in the military camp at Tampa a scene that is well worth recording, memorizing, and rubbing in.

It was Queen Victoria's birthday, the birthday of the ruler under whose long rule not thousands, but hundreds of thousands, perhaps, millions, of East Indians have died of starvation; the ruler under whose rule England has covered herself with laurels—only when they were to be rung from semi-savages; but has been covered with shameful defeat every time it encountered the white race, as happened twice recently in South Africa; the ruler under whose rule practical slavery exists at our very doors in the West Indies; the ruler under whose rule the Alabama was built and EQUIPPED to commit depredations upon our commerce, and give the Southern slave-holders a chance to preserve their system and break down the Union.

That ruler's birthday was the subject of celebration at Tampa by our army officers! And, as if that were not infamy enough, the British flag, under whose folds all the above enumerated crimes were committed—that flag appeared over the banquet table of our army officers INTERTWINED WITH THE AMERICAN FLAG.

That celebration was a disgrace to the Nation; that intertwining of our own with the British flag was treason to all that our flag is claimed to stand for by the class in whose keeping it now is.

But above the treason, and thanks to the boldness, the brazenness with which it is committed, looms the lesson. The Irish proletariat of America, so large a portion of our working class, and so important a fraction thereof, will certainly perceive the oneness of the class they follow here and the class they fled from across the ocean. And, so perceiving, will hasten to stop allowing themselves longer to be used for fools.

The ruling, the capitalist class of America is one with the ruling class of England. To the former, the American flag is but a blind; their real flag is the English, being the flag under which modern capitalism was really born. To the latter, true always to their flag, the American flag is but a bait to catch gudgeons with.

RETRIBUTION.

The careful observer of passing events can not but feel awe-inspired by the spectacle presented by Spain, and perceive the retribution that overtakes the guilty.

The pickle the Spanish ruling class, the Spanish property-holding class, is in is a pickle of its own salting.

Long would our own capitalist class have had to look for a pretext for war with somebody, and thus had a chance to give full swing to its highwayman schemes had not the "Cuban Insurrection" been there ready at hand. And what is it, who is it that kept up the myth of an insurrection in Cuba? Why the Spanish officials themselves, who, both in Cuba and Spain, found in an "insurrection" all the opportunities imaginable to plunder the Cuban and the Spanish people; and, consequenty, helped to keep up the lie of "insurrection."

Here at home, the yellow papers and others found their immediate and prospective account in the reports of "great battles fought in Cuba." These battles were fought only in the columns of these papers. They helped to sell the paper, and the stockholders who were aiming for war and had started the thing were thus furnished with "information" that they could furnish their Congressmen with, and cause advance war speeches to be made.

Now, then, at any time the Spanish ruling class might have put an end to the farce. But that did not suit them. They had their own game to play. They needed a pretext for taxation, for troops, for appropriations. All of these give beautiful opportunities for fraud. So then, their men in Cuba, to them what the papers were here to the American capitalists who wanted war, had to report encounters, skirmishes, captures, etc., etc. These official reports gave a color to the lying newspaper reports of our yellow journals, and the newspaper reports of our yellow journals gave a color to the lying military reports from Cuba.

For a time both sets of brigands—the American and the Spanish capitalist class—were happy. But the time came when they had to part company. That time arrived, when, basing his claims upon the reports of Spain herself, McKinley declared that those "atrocities must cease, and that he would put an end to them."

War resulted, with Spain in as uncomfortable a position as can well be imagined, and her capitalist class exposed at every moment to be called to a harsh reckoning by her infuriated people.

The Spanish ruling class is now tasting the punishment for its misdeeds; the American ruling class, now used by Providence as a scourge, will receive its chastisement next.

Among the "patriots" rushing to the front, ready to sacrifice themselves on the altar of their country, is Calvin S. Brice's son. His eyes flash, his nostrils are dilated, his chest heaves. "War!" is in his very motion; and his posture further implies that he who says not "War," or is against it, is a traitor to his country, his flag, his—well, his everything.

Let these prancing warriors be watched closely. This Brice is a type of them. They, like him, are getting ornamental positions in the Commissary Department,—not positions of danger. And if they be closely investigated it will be found that each of these worthies has a capitalist scheme up his sleeves—to be developed under the protection of the American flag, behind whose folds these precious patriots conceal their rascally schemes.

The speeches that are being made in Congress exhibit our legislators in a very poor light. Apart from the dishonest ranting on patriotism with which each of the speakers introduces his remarks, they show that they know neither living nor past events.

If anything may be considered well established with regard to Cuba, it is that there is no insurrection in the island worth mentioning. The bulk of what there is under that name are men in the pay of American capitalists who are doing bushwacking, and thus furnishing the proverbally needed fire for the big smoke that the American papers, owned by the identical interests, must raise to keep up the fiction of "Cuban patriots in arms, looking for the aid of the United States," and thus give a color for the war that will set afloat new bonds issues, etc.

Our Congressmen don't seem to know this. Not knowing this, they ignore the significance of a non-Cuban, the Dominican Gomez, being the military chief.

As a matter, of course, ignorant of the present, they are infinitely more so of the past. A ludicrous illustration of this fact was given in the House of Representatives a few days ago by Congressman Henry R. Gibson, of Tennessee. He was strewing around flowers of rhetoric interspersed with ingots of historic and patriotic reminiscences. Among these he threw out this:

"I remember the expeditions of that heroic patriot Narciso Lopez, and how he finally was defeated, and he himself executed, dying as a martyr to the cause of Cuba's liberty, his last words being a prayer that some day his beloved native island might be free."

It so happens that Lopez' "beloved native island" was not Cuba. He was a Venezuelan by birth, bringing up and extraction, who had learned in his boyhood of the old South American aspiration to set Cuba free, but balked by the slave-holding oligarchy that then ruled this country.

Senator Proctor, of Vermont, should be henceforth styled "Tearful Proc."

The other day, before the war was declared, he broke out into floods of tears in the Senate over the sufferings of the Cuban patriots, claimed by him to have been seen by him on an investigating tour made by him in Cuba.

It came out, soon after, that the Senator's eyes must be a sort of perambulating X-ray depots, seeing that tall mountain ridges and thick woodlands intercepted the view of the plantations he claimed to have "investigated" from the railroad line to whose short stretch his "investigation" was limited. That fact would have entitled the Senator to the name of "X-Rays Proc."

But telling as that name would be we prefer the one of "Tearful Proc," for the reason that this bundle of charity that took the trouble of going to Cuba to "investigate," and had such copious tears for the sufferings of the Cubans, soon as he comes home, does what? LOWERS THE WAGES OF HIS VERMONT QUARRYMEN!

The receipt of a sample copy of this paper is an invitation to subscribe.

POLITICAL and ECONOMIC.

The merry fight of the small stores, and how the workingmen should understand it, are well put by the Cleveland, O., "Citizen" in this paragraph:

"There is now a stiff anti-department store war on in New York, Chicago, St. Louis, Omaha, Kansas City, and several other places. In New York the big stores, in order to attract customers, are giving theatrical performances in their places of business, and have even established kindergartens, and there is talk of holding religious services. The single-line storekeepers have organized a protective association and are appealing to the Legislature and Congress to enact such laws as will prevent the concentration and centralization of various retail businesses under the management and control of one firm. In Chicago and St. Paul hundreds of empty store-rooms testify to the ravages of the department houses, and everywhere there is great squealing on the part of small merchants who are vainly struggling for riches against the competitive system, which, in their estimation, is all right when it affects the working people, who are compelled to fight and struggle for jobs, and thus underbid each other and keep down wages, but is all wrong when it acts in the same way with their little capitalistic interests and sweeps away their profits."

In a letter published in the New York "Evening Post," and intended to portray the inferiority of the Spaniard when compared with our own élite, this passage occurs:

"How many times have I walked the streets (in Spain) with Spaniards and heard them address beggars as "brother," excusing themselves when they had no small change to give, even opening their purses to prove their words."

And that in a paper that makes it a point to preach Christian charity!

"At an inquest held on Saturday last on Cornelius Lean, a 'match dipper, employed at Bryant and May's works at Bow, it appeared that death was due to necrosis of the jaw, caused by phosphorous poisoning. This fact, however, was not mentioned in the certificate of death, given by the factory medical officer, and, but for information given by the Registrar, the inquest would never have been held, and the actual facts would never have come to light. It is a monstrous thing that these wealthy corporations should be able to poison and slaughter their workpeople with impunity, and then hush up their misdeeds."

Where was all this? In New York? Chicago? St. Louis? or any other of our American cities? It sounds like a page from our own country. Well, as it happens, the thing took place in England, and the news of it is taken from the London "Justice." But what about the much vaunted English factory laws? Why, they are no better than here: there, as here, the capitalist class is in power.

The Milwaukee "Evening Wisconsin" deserves credit for the frankness with which it reports a conference held by the Governor of the State with other "leading citizens" on the 18th instant on the several strikes that were breaking out in several parts of the State. It calmly announces that:

"It was suggested that the occasion might arise where drilled forces may be needed. If any strike movement should demonstrate so unpatriotic a spirit as to take advantage of the seeming unprotected condition of the State, because our boys have been called to the front to fight for this country, it will discover its mistake, and find WE are still in shape to protect ourselves."

7th Mass. Congress District.

Firm Stand Taken at the S. L. P. Convention, Lynn, May 15.

WHEREAS, We rely upon the authority of knowledge that the working class must become the ruling class before dire poverty can be lifted from our nation; before each person can obtain his rightful share of modern advantages in social power of wealth production which is the due of every man, woman and child; therefore,

RESOLVED, This day, in convention assembled, that we enter upon the conquest of the political power in the Seventh Congressional district of Massachusetts by the nomination of Joseph H. Malloney, of Lynn, for Congress.

WHEREAS, We realize that pure and simple trades unions were a privilege suited to subjects under a monarchical government, but inadequate and pernicious for men enjoying the rights, duties and responsibilities of democratic government under which each man is accountable for the best use of his power political; that pure and simple unions are merchandise, marketable to the highest bidder by labor fakirs during election time; that the present lamentable state of the trades unions in this district is the direct result of the inherent rottenness which is the most conspicuous characteristic of that low form of organization known as pure and simple; therefore,

RESOLVED, That we unreservedly endorse the Socialist Trades & Labor Alliance, which brings the trade organizations up to its proper plane of citizenship by the use of the political as well as the economic weapon in the existing class struggle which is inevitably to lead either to the extinction of civilized action, if the capitalist class prevails, or to the elevation of the entire human race, if the working class prevails.

Mrs. MARTHA MOORE AVERY, Boston.
Mrs. BYRON EFFORD, Revere.
FRANK MACDONALD, Stoneham.

While it is not yet possible to tell accurately the result of the French elections of this month, this much transpires clearly that the Socialist Labor party's vote was tremendously increased. From 600,000 at the previous election, it rises above 1,000,000 this year.

OLD WORLDS REMODELLED WHILE YOU WAIT.

Vol. No. Two of Wan Johnnycake's Sunday School Library.

"No," said Margaret Halle Wellmet, courtesying to Kuros Willard, who was waiting on the back steps for the call of fame, "you cannot see Mr. Nibs. He is busy yearning for the love of the millionaire, but I can give you another slice of bread and molasses if you wish it."

"No, I don't want it," said Kuros, sullenly, "I called to complain of that fellow Willard Hinton. I don't care how extravagant he is on paper, but when I anounced that we had some thousands in sight he laid in a stock of frankfurters on the strength of it. Now we are broke, and if we don't look out he'll buy that tract of land yet. I don't believe he is to be trusted, and, furthermore, I don't believe he is."

"O Mr. Nibs! Mr. Nibs!" cried the affrighted young lady, "Mr. Hinton has went and gone over to the Teutonic element!"

At that moment the stately form of the great leader, drawn up in dress parade, passed them. He was sunk in meditation, but the golden words he uttered were audible, "I, Eugene V. Nibs, in convention assembled, assert all assertions which I have hitherto said, and which do not conflict with what I am about to do. Yet I wonder if there is any truth in the report which I have caused to be circulated that there is a surprise in store for my followers—ah—how do you do, Cy? And is that Gasoff walking across the lawn? Yes, it is. Excuse my absence of mind. It fled when I had the mumps. Herbert, I see you are still in the land of the living."

"Not exactly," said the reverend gentleman slowly, "I am still a Social Democrat, still true to you."

Kuros and Margaret nodded to one another, significantly. "So Gasoff is going to leave us," whispered the woman, "that is the way he always acts before he sheds his skin. You know that he claims that he is an inspired political dervish."

"You know," said Gasoff, "that so far our only evidence of strength has been a bad smell, and it will be necessary for us to have a movement. Now, if Mr. Willard has a second-hand movement that he is not using we might borrow it and pay him in colonization brick blocks."

"Sh," said Margaret Wellmet, regarding her idol with admiration, "he is going to be funny. Ah, such a witty gentleman! Who would ever think that he would arrive at such a state that he could tell the funniest story without raising a laugh?"

"That is not the question," said Nibs, "and we launched the Social Democracy to find out what it is. Some one has found out and is keeping the truth from us. If we discover who he is, nothing shall keep me from calling him scientific."

"No, no," said Willard, "do not execute such a horrible threat. Even if we are beaten in argument, it is well to be generous and admit that our antagonists know something. Not much, but yet a little. We need a man, the man of the time. A man with a great head to lead us on to victory."

"There is Jessie Cox," suggested M. Halle Wellmet; "he has a head like a tadpole."

"We shall put him aside just now," said Gasoff, "but there is one thing which I ask," he continued, demanding a dozen before he stopped to catch his breath.

"Mr. Willard has an awful complaint to make," said Miss Wellmet, calmly cutting off a chew of tobacco with her scissors.

"We have no time for that now," said Nibs. "What we want to do is show a solid unbroken front, in fact, a front is all we have to show. When our official organ—and by the way, I should like to see that paper some time. We heard a lot about it—announced that we showed great discretion in not doing anything and keeping it a secret, it proved that it understood revolutionary tactics. Of course, we cannot wholly confide in Gordon. He can go 'across the Continent for a dollar," and across the bounds of common decency for a great deal less. He is accustomed to get out of the rain, and if he can't take care of himself, his better half will take care of him as she has always done. Now, Gasoff, what have you to offer?"

Herbert blushed and stammered that he did not anticipate a collection, and had left his purse at home, but if Mr. Willard woul ——

"No, no, you misunderstand him, dear," cooed Miss Halle Wellmet, "the gentleman is not going to take away Herbie's pennies. Now, answer up, like a good boy, and tell him what you think."

"Think," said Nibs, sternly. "Have we traitors in the camp? What kind of language is this? Go out there in the back yard until I have completed all the arrangements for a future heaven on earth."

With bowed heads they left him and sorrowfully seated themselves together in a hammock. "Too bad," said Herbert, "I was about to prepare a grand patriotic celebration in which red, white and blue roses should figure prominently, but my soul-born idea was crushed in the bud."

"You should not be too hard on our Comrade," said Kuros. "Remember, he is so busy that he does not know from day to day the name of the party to which he belongs."

Within the house a terrible conquest was being waged between the powers of darkness and of light. Gene sat at his desk and figured up his accounts.

"Not so many in here after all," he whispered. "But competition has been keen in my line. If I could only have formed a trust of reform parties with an option on revolution everything would have been all right. However, I'll do my best. Colonization fund! Hum, the Col. thinks himself Number One, does he? He forgets his fraternity and his motto of lack—for something or other, but it can only refer to me, but there is something left. Collections gone. Subscriptions gone. Donation, ah, a little left. Well, to-morrow my own special band of Socialists shall see the canonization plot. Ha ha! Patronize a domestic article—five full quarts for a dollar. Now I shall wade in the balance"—a sardonic smile overshadowed his face—"and to-morrow I shall be found wanting."

F. MACDONALD.
Stoneham, Mass.

UNCLE SAM & BROTHER JONATHAN.

Brother Jonathan—I want to give you good advice.

Uncle Sam—Although I would prefer money to advice, just now that the war is raising the price of everything, I'll take your advice. What is it?

B. J.—Well, it is to disconnect the Socialist Labor party from the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance.

U. S. (a smile spreading over his face)—And with what end in view?

B. J.—With the end in view of helping the party to grow. You must admit that the connection of the S. L. P. with the S. T. & L. A. keeps its vote down.

U. S. roars aloud.

B. J.—Why do you laugh?

U. S.—I laugh because you tickle me; because you seem to be a gay and and festive cuss to make such a proposition.

B. J.—Don't you want to see the S. L. P. grow?

U. S.—Of course, I do; and it does grow!

B. J.—Well, it does grow, but not very fast.

U. S.—I know that if, instead of 54,000 votes we had polled last year 200,000 it would have been faster growth.

B. J.—Just so; why don't it yet poll any more than it does?

U. S. (looking B. J. straight in the eyes)—I'll tell you, by thunder! Because you and more like you, who claim to be Socialists, don't vote the ticket; and don't vote it because you allow your small trade interests to frighten you, one year, in favor of McKinley, lest your paltry bank account be wiped out by free coinage; another year, in favor of Tammany lest the police interfere with your stand on the outside of your show-window, and so on. It does make me hot to find fellows like you, throwing the blame for our not growing any faster upon the S. T. & L. A., while S. T. & L. A. or no S. T. & L. A. your own votes are not given to the S. L. P. but are controlled by interests that have no place in the Socialist camp. Get off with you!

B. J. (with a where-in-thunder-did-he-find-out-how-I-voted face)—Hem! Well, hem!

U. S.—That's unpalatable truth; isn't it? But it is straight goods.

B. J.—Now, don't get too wild; be sensible.

U. S.—Admit that you voted for McKinley in '96!

B. J.—Well—yes—I did; but ——!

U. S.—And admit that you voted for Tammany last year!

B. J.—I did; but ——!

U. S.—Shame upon you! How dare you look me in the face?

B. J.—Do you think that everybody is born for a martyr?

U. S.—No; but neither should so many be born for darned liars, and try to make believe the fault of the S. L. P. not growing faster is some other cause than their own treason to the principles that they claim to have at heart.

B. J.—Well, I'll grant that; but you should not find fault with either me or my friends who don't vote the S. L. P. ticket as yet. You don't know how many workingmen there are in this country who still have some little property; it is not yet here like in Europe; it will come, I know, but that day is not yet.

U. S.—What of that? What conclusion do you draw from that?

B. J.—Well, that all of us who still are in the middle class must be pardoned for voting as we do.

U. S.—That's no conclusion at all. I'll tell you what conclusion is inevitable from your premises:

1. Either this country is not yet ripe for a Socialist movement, and then the S. L. P. should furl its banner and wait.—A view which I can't accept, for the reason that the overwhelming majority of the working class here are now wholly stripped of property, and the attempt is well worth making to endeavor to have the middle class understand that its property is bound to slip through its fingers into the hands of the capitalist class, and leave it stranded unless it join the Socialist movement, and obtain its full share of the ample fortune that the Socialist Commonwealth offers.

2. Or this country is thoroughly ripe for a Socialist Labor party, i. e., for a party of proletarians and of those, who, without being proletarians, are sensible enough to throw their lot therewith and stand by it through thick and thin; and then all such as you should be fired, and the movement rid of the drag, such as you are to it.—I hold to this conclusion.

Syracuse, N. Y.

THE PEOPLE always for sale at M. Lemp's, 470 S. Salina street, Syracuse, N. Y.

Buffalo, N. Y.

Comrade Peter Steenmans, Jr., 52 Guilford street, has been elected agent for THE PEOPLE.

All subscribers in arrears are requested to kindly remit when called upon by the new agent.

To Jewish Sections and Branches.

Wilshire's leaflet, "Why American Workingmen Should Be Socialists," has been translated into Jewish, and can now be had at $1.25 per 1,000 or $1.50, if sent by mail or express. Address all orders to

LABOR NEWS CO.,
64 East 4th street, New York.

Philadelphia, Pa.

Comrade Max Keller, 1016 Hope street, has been duly appointed agent for THE PEOPLE.

All subscribers are urgently requested to settle for their subscription by him if in arrears. Give him a hand in agitating and gathering new subscribers.

PACKINGTOWN.

A Timely Search-light on One of our Econcentrado Plague-Spots.

CHICAGO, May 25—The fame of the Union Stock Yards and Packing Houses of Chicago is spread throughout the civilized world. No visitor to the World's Fair city thinks his tour of the sights completed until he has been piloted through the mazes of "Packingtown" and seen the wondrous machinery that whirls the animal along in his transforming journey from the pen to the barrel. He marvels at the combinations of iron and steel, whose variety, intricacy and humanness are only equalled in marvelousness by the uniformity, simplicity, and mechanicalness of their flesh and blood competitors. The interest of the visitor is divided between wonder at the iron and steel expression of human intelligence that follows all the curves of a hog's anatomy to remove the bristles, and the flesh and blood mechanism that removes all the meat from a bone with a single lightening-like stroke of a knife. He is led into the great cooling rooms and gazes on acres of freezing hogs in preparation for a journey perhaps half way round the world, but his attention is seldom called to the gangs of workmen with bare arms rushing at headlong speed back and forth from this frigid atmosphere to the torrid heat of the steaming "killing floor." In fact, there are many things not on exhibition to the casual visitor or pointed out by the affable uniformed guide who leads the way. It is the purpose of this paper to take the visitor a little behind the scenes and point out some of the conditions that attach to this splendid development of capitalism.

GENERAL SURVEY.

The industry as a whole is probably next to the Standard Oil the best example of the completed evolution of capitalistic industry to be found in this country. The process of consolidation has about run its course. All competing butchers were long ago destroyed save a few in out of the way places where their competition is unfelt. Thousands of men were robbed of a life-long trade experience and had the inexorable law of private monopoly read to them, "Thou shalt not produce." So far there has been no talk of "compensating" those thus ruined. As to the details of the manner in which this was done, suffice it to say they were all "good business methods" and included the usual tactics in such cases. Within a short time, however, another feature has been developed, that is of interest to those who are watching the course of social movements. The business, once concentrated for fighting, now that the baile is won, is being dispersed for profit. The Chicago houses are remaining well-nigh stationery in size, but all over the United States branch institutions are being started. At St. Louis, Omaha, St. Joe, Kansas City, Duluth, St. Paul, and several other great transportation centers, establishments similar to those of Chicago are being formed. These are all built along the line that separates the cattle-raising district from the great consuming public. Railroad rates are then so arranged that the cost of BRINGING LIVE STOCK to those particular points is very low, but from there on to the East the rates are practically prohibitory on live cattle, while the rate on DRESSED MEAT suddenly drops. Lest this situation might be taken advantage of by small firms located at these points, a heavy rebate is given on all private cars—a rebate so heavy that according to an instance cited by Judge Schoonmaker in a paper read before the Third Annual Convention of Railroad Commissioners, the "cars were paid for and a margin in two years, and thereafter an income of upwards of $100,000 a year was insured on an investment fully repaid or in effect on no investment whatever." This was on an original investment in rolling stock of $156,500, which of course is a very small sum compared with what many of the great packers have invested in this way.

Under such conditions it was not long until "free competition" had run its course and given way to combination and monopoly. Soon all the savings that accompany monopoly, even under private management, began to appear. "By-products" were utilized down to the minutest degree. Bones, teeth, hair, blood, hoofs, horns, all were found to be of value when in such large quantities, until it became a standing joke at the yards to be told to each visitor by the grinning guide that "everything is saved but the squeal, and they are fixing up a machine to can that up for Fourth of July celebrations." In the utilization of such products subsidiary industries grew up marking another stage in industrial development. Soap and glue factories, bone mills, laboratories for meat extracts, tanneries and brush manufactories arise. With perfect control of the raw product, exceptional facilities for marketing, favorable terms with railroads, and advertising furnished by already well-known names the process of crushing out competitors must prove a short one.

A number of years ago the packers began to carry on directly the retail trade in meats and packing house products, and to-day one firm is said to have over 3,000 such retail and wholesale establishments scattered over the entire commercialized world. It goes without saying that once such an establishment is located in a town no rival firms are allowed to exist except upon terms that suit the royal master. Within the last few months still another phase has appeared along this particular line. In revenge for anti-butterine legislation by the farmers and provision dealers the packers are said to have informed the said farmers and dealers that they would be taught a lesson. So just at present they are involuntary attending the school of capitalistic political economy. The packers have simply gone into the provision business. One of the floors of a great packing house has been fitted up for the slaughter of chickens, geese, turkeys, etc. The same wholesale methods that have wiped out competition in other lines are being applied here. The markets are being manipulated and the whole complex machinery of subsidiary plants and sub-agencies are being utilized for the destruction of those foolish parties who had not yet learned that legislatures are sacred to the use of the BIG capitalists. Butter and eggs are being handled in the provision depots throughout the country, and it is but a short step to add a general grocery line, and then the retail grocery trade (the classical example in bourgeois political economy of an industry with diminishing or continuous returns, and hence incapable of monopoly) will be quickly brought under uniform and economical control, and a great body of small merchants sent to join the proletariat.

"PACKINGTOWN."

Leaving now this general survey of the whole field of the industry and coming back to "Packingtown" let us look for a time at the conditions immediately surrounding this mammouth institution. The allied industries here located employ between 25,000 to 35,000 men, women and children, supporting a population of between 125,000 and 175,000. This constitutes the largest industrial community in the world, the Krupp gun works coming second, but far behind, with about 16,000 employees. Under what condition does this population live who produce the meat of the world? Have they shared in the economies of production—in the savings of combination, in the benefits of improved machinery? Where and how do they live, what manner of homes have they, and what are the conditions under which they work? These are questions the casual visitor seldom asks and the answers to which are never volunteered. Yet the most hurried visitors cannot fail to have one of the conditions of life in the yards thrust upon him as his nostrils are saluted by the horrible stench that pervades everything and lingers for hours after a return to a more salubrious atmosphere. Recently this stench left its native haunts and wandered away on the Southern breezes to the aristocratic north side, and the Health Commissioner became suddenly interested in the welfare, not of the laborers who live directly in the midst of things, but of the wealthy individuals residing from three to ten miles away. In the entire discussion in the papers I have yet to see one word about the sufferings of those who are compelled to spend their entire lives in the very origin of the abuse while columns are written deploring the inconvenience of those who live for brief spells miles away and to whom a few whiffs are wafted before they can escape on their summer vacations.

Great volumes of smoke roll from the forest of chimneys at all hours of the day and drift down over the helpless neighborhood like a deep, black curtain that fain would hide the misery it aggravates. The foul packing house sewage, too offensive even for monopolistic exploitation, is spewed forth in a multitude of arteries of filth into a branch of the Chicago River at one corner of the yards, where it rises to the top and spreads out in a nameless indescribable cake of condensed foulness and disease-breeding stench. Near by are several acres of bristles culled from the backs of numberless hogs and spread out that the still clinging animal matter may not rot away before they are made up into brushes. Gangs of laborers spend the long day in turning and tossing this into great windrows until the whole scene becomes a ghastly tantalizing mockery of a great hay field in harvest time. But the stifling odor that burns the nostrils, and chokes the lungs, and poisons the system is far different from the sweet-scented, invigorating aroma that arises from a newly-cut meadow. As if local conditions could not furnish horrors enough, the municipality and other neighborhoods have lent a hand by leaving the streets unpaved, ungutter ed and uncleaned, and to cap all a city garbage dump has been established a few blocks away where hundreds of loads of refuse from the back doors of the wealthier wards are dumped each day at the front doors of the already long-suffering laborers of the Stock Yards. When a protest was made against this and an injunction sought against the contractors who were by such dumping guilty of a criminal action under the laws of the State, the city attorney, the paid servant of the people, apeared to defend them and added insult to injury by pleading the greater number of nuisances already existing in the neighborhood as an excuse for locating another in the same locality. Is it any wonder that this immediate section of the Stock Yards community, known as "back of the yards," has the highest death rate in the city—so high among children that on one street the death rate for children under five years actually exceeds the birth rate.

AN INSIDE LOOK.

All these conditions, it may be said, are outside the building, and the curious visitor must not be expected to be shown them. How about all within the buildings? Does the guide point out all the interesting features there? Does he take his party into the damp packing cellars, where from three to ten years ordinarily marks the limit of a man's working life before rheumatism breaks him down and sends his wife and children into the fierce labor struggle, or makes him a humble supplicant for charity? Is atention called to the unguarded and defectively dangerous machinery—death traps for the helpless workers who dare not complain? In one establishment a long line of uncovered rendering vats with tops at the level of the floor yawn wide open in a steam-laden atmosphere for the unwary victim. No less than three persons personally known to the writer have fallen to an awful death in these vats within the past two years. A single elevator crippled one man and killed another within six weeks, and from all I learned to the contrary may still be running in its dangerous condition.

Here as elsewhere capitalism has invaded the home and dragged forth the mother and child to do its work, while the father walks the streets vainly searching for a master. Notwithstanding numerous prosecutions for child labor during the past few years a large number are still employed. All statistics as to numbers so employed are valueless as the skill with which children are whisked out of sight at the approach of an inspector is a standing joke in the establishments, and any one who has traveled the mazes of Packingtown will realize how easy such a manipulation is. Regarding the conditions under which the children work, the State Factory Inspector in her report for 1895 says:

"Some of the boys act as butchers, sticking sheep, lambs and swine; others cut the hide from the quivering flesh of freshly stunned cattle; still others sort entrails, pack meat, and make the tin cans in which the gods are shipped. In several places a boy has been found at work at a dangerous machine, BECAUSE HIS FATHER HAD BEEN DISABLED BY IT, and keeping the place pending recovery depended upon the boy's doing the work during the father's absence.

THE WAGES.

The question then arises as to the return received by the laborer for his share of what he is allowed to produce under such conditions. It may be said to begin with that any general exact statements as to wages are unattainable. No one who knows anything as to general conditions will talk concerning them and to gain the information piecemeal from employees is a well-nigh impossible task. A little over two years' residence "back of the yards," with close observation and conversation with hundreds of workmen furnish a basis, however, for some fairly accurate generalizations. Several years ago it was discovered that by maintaining a capacity to the works far beyond the actual needs, it was possible to kill the entire daily shipments each day and thus save the expense of storage and feeding. Thus it comes about that each establishment runs each day only until its live stock receipts for that day are disposed of, and then shuts down until the next purchase. The result is that thousands of men must plod to their places each morning utterly ignorant as to whether they will work one hour, two hours or fourteen. If one is missing from his position but a single time when wanted some one is called in from the waiting hundreds ever clamoring at the door for even his poor chance, and the place is lost. If, on the other hand, as often happens, he walks a weary distance only to find that the house is not going to run that day, no one compensates him for his time or finds him other employment during his waiting days. As wages are always by the hour or piece, a multitude of families exist on from year to year, paying or dodging rent, buying or begging clothing, purchasing or picking coal, in a miserable monotonous holding of body and soul together, on the shameful pittance of from two to five dollars a week, prevented from going elsewhere had they the ambition left to desire removal by the impossibility upon the one hand of obtaining railroad fare, and upon the other the deceptive will-o'-the-wisp hope of better wages and "fuller time." How close the margin of existence always is is shown by the fact that over twenty per cent. of the entire population are compelled to ask for charity during the year.

HOW THE TRADE UNION IS LOOKED AT.

Some "Pure and Simpler" may arise at this point and ask why they do not have manhood enough to unite in a trades union and fight for better conditions. Occasionally a labor fakir comes among them and urges them to unite with "high dues" and call a strike. But the old employee only shakes his head. He may not understand much of the process and laws of social evolution, but he has seen the rise and fall of union after union in the yards, and has marked the failure of many a strike, and he realizes that something has happened to the particular industry in which he is engaged that makes it well-nigh hopeless to combine for an economic fight against the employers. So it has come about that there are practically no unions in the yards. The reasons are not far to seek. Trade distinctions have nearly all disappeared before the machine. Few places could not be filled at a moment's notice from the great army of unemployed ever present and growing larger each year. Under these conditions, which the Socialist will recognize at once as the typical marks of an advanced stage of industry, the pure and simple trades union is useless. One of the unions in Chicago is the Carpenters' Union. The union rate for carpenters in Chicago is 35 cents an hour with an eight-hour day. In the yards every carpenter works ten hours at 25 cents an hour, and never a question is asked as to union or scab.

Another phase whose significance the Socialist will also be quick to see took place a few days ago when there was a strike in a branch house at St. Joe. The Chicago establishment simply ran a few more hours each day, much to the gratification of their employees, who never dreamed they were "scabbing" on their St. Joe brethren. It is such features as these in modern industry that make improvement within the wage system more hopeless every day.

So thoroughly is their servitude impressed upon them that they scarce dare have an opinion. During the recent Presidential campaign the owners of the yards decided that there interests were more intimately connected with one of the great capitalistic parties than with the other, and so when a great parade was wanted for that party the employees were told to report as if for work, and were then given canes and other marching paraphernalia and excused (?) to join the parade. When a petition was circulated asking the Health Department to enforce the smoke ordinance, not an employee dared sign it lest he lose the right to call a particular man master, and thereby lack the scanty means hitherto vouchsafed him to keep body and soul together.

THE POWER BEHIND THE THRONE.

Where is the directive force of these mighty organs of production and oppression? Visitors often break forth in fulsome praise of the tremendous intellects and wondrous generalship of the owners that marshals all these armies of industry for the service of society. Let us examine one of these mammoth institutions and see if we can locate the organizing, directing, controlling force that preserves order and regularity throughout all its diverse ramifications.

At the head is a general superintendent; under him two or more division superintendents; then department superintendents; then overseers of floors, and finally bosses of gangs. Each little potentate is engaged in a fierce struggle to gain the favor of those above him and thus secure further advancement. Jealousies, intrigues and plots of all kind flourish. Bribery, nepotism, and diplomacy that test the resources of an expert politician to equal are employed to gain a place one step nearer the coveted top. Aside from these means, the surest method to obtain preference is to reduce the margin of expenses relative to the product in a department. If one man can be thrown upon the street by forcing the remaining poor wretches to further exertions promotion is almost within reach. The invention of a machine that sends a whole gang of fellow workmen out to beg, starve or steal, or supplants them with the cheaper labor of their wives and children assures certain and rapid advance. All the evil effects of competition upon the laborer and consumer are present, and the only person always benefited is the owner of the plant.

The peculiar manner in which much of the work is done renders the pressing of the workmen to an ever higher speed particularly easy. The animal being transformed into meat generally moves along upon some kind of a mechanical contrivance, and each laborer performs his particular task while the carcass is passing him. All that is needed to force the workmen to greater exertions is to move the meat faster. In one of the meat trimming divisions where women are employed a peculiarly brilliant scheme has been evolved to force those poor creatures to more violent exertions. The meat to be trimmed comes out of a chute and passes along a trough where it is scrambled for, each one grabbing for the best pieces to trim. A very dexterous and fearless woman who is able to force through the crowd in the struggle for material, and then to work with exceptional speed upon the best pieces thus obtained, often earns the munificent sum of $1.25 a day. The others range from thirty to seventy-five cents a day, or even less. This "speeding up" has been regularly and systematically carried out in every department until an employee informed the writer a short time ago that he was compelled to do exactly twice as much work as he was doing fifteen years ago, and with exactly the same tools. That marvelous speed and dexterity so much admired by visitors, that transforms a piece of meat as it flies from hand to hand or moves rapidly along an overhanging track is simply inhumanly hard work.

The task of superintendence has thus been reduced to a minimum. A mechanical "boss" has been evolved, more merciless, were it possible, than the human counterpart. In such a mechanical, intercompetitive community, with its hierarchy of superintendents, overseers and bosses it is hard to discover the social function of the owner. No one familiar with the operation of a great packing house dreams for a minute that if the owners were dead, imbeciles or infants, the life of a single hog would be saved or a pound of meat be missing from the tables of the world. As a matter of fact some of the largest plants are owned by European syndicates who never saw the factory in which their wealth is produced and know less of the processes by which it is done than the most ignorant member of the "cleaning gang."

From beginning to end the industry is organized, supervised, directed, controlled and operated by hired employees. To be sure wage differences and social distinction will exist, and the head superintendents would probably arise in parvenue horror at being assigned to the same economic class with the "hog driver" or tender of a sausage machine. But these distinctions, like the earlier trade ones are fading away. The great Armour Institute, philanthropically established to fill the market with educated, skilled labor whose wages are being forced by the same remorseless competition that presses upon the cheapest day laborer down to the level of the return received by the latter, is rapidly settling this phase of the question. Still we are told that the co-operative commonwealth is impossible of realization because the proletariat is incapable of industrial organization, and there will be no incentive to the great "captains of industry" to induce them to take the lead.

As I look out of my window I see the Stars and Stripes (in opposition to Spanish tyranny and in token of protection to Cuban reconcentrados, I suppose) floating through the smoke that drifts down from these dropping, grinding, humanity crushing institutions, and over none does it float higher and prouder than over those whose owners and directors are in Europe, and my thoughts go out to the Chicago reconcentrados on whom the lengthening rays of a summer sun are just beginning to carry the shafts of disease and suffering and death, and I wonder how long this awful farce will be played before the laborers will break this tenfold worse thn Spanish tyranny and take their place as men demanding that the fruits of their toil shall no longer be snatched from their helpless families to support industrial parasites in idle luxury,

A. M. SIMONS.

The English translation of Karl Marx' "Eighteenth Brumaire," that recently ran through THE PEOPLE, is now to be had bound in an elegant volume of 78 pages, with Marx' picture as frontispiece. This work is of great value. No Socialist, even though he be no student, and no student even though he be no Socialist, can afford to be without it. Apply Labor News Co., 64 E. 4th street, N. Y. city. Price 25 cents.

S. L. P. Supplies.

Constitutions in English, German and Polish (with platform)....	50c. per 100
Constitution in Jewish (without platform)	40c. per 100
Due Cards	40c. per 100
Application Cards	40c. per 100
Emblem Buttons (stud or pin) per dozen	25c.
Metal emblem pins (gilt) per doz.	30c.

When ordering supplies, enclose the cash: it takes time to keep credit accounts, send out bills (perhaps a number of times before collection is made), and all this time, postage and effort may be employed to a better purpose.

The emblem buttons and the pins are not sent out on credit under any circumstances. They are sold by the N. Y. State Committee, which committee keeps no credit accounts of any kind.

Address all orders to: HENRY KUHN, 184 William street, New York, N. Y.

The receipt of a sample copy of this paper is an invitation to subscribe.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Correspondents who prefer to appear in print under an assumed name, will attach such name to their communication, besides their own signature and address. None other will be recognized.]

The St. Paul, Minn., Municipal Election.

To THE PEOPLE.—May 3d was designated as the date for our municipal election. Comrade E. E. Fisher was our candidate for Mayor and polled 311 votes, according to city clerk Jensen's statement; whether this is the correct figure or not, we can't say, as we had no challengers or judges as the old parties. We, for the first time in St. Paul's history, had a Mayor candidate in the field.

Three hundred and eleven votes for a city of this magnitude may seem small, but it must be noted that it is a monopoly-ridden city, well supplied with labor fakirs also.

The municipal ownership league had worked up a sentiment, causing 3,386 votes to be given to W. W. Erwin who promised, if elected, a 3 cents car fare and the municipalization of the street railways, the light plants and the telephone system as well as the abolition of the contract system as far as public works were concerned. These promises had some weight with the working people who therefore endorsed Erwin in the hope of immediate relief. He himself, posing as the friend of labor, caused the unwary toilers to throw away their votes upon him.

As to the Prohibition vote, we have reason to feel encouraged when we learn that only 507 votes was allowed their candidate, Frost, spite the many years they have been in the political arena. The people seem to understand that the cause of hard times is to be sought somewhere outside of the saloons and that more radical measures must be resorted to than the prohibition of liquor manufacture and sale.

Many weeks before election we had speakers in the different ward meetings more or less attended and a week or more before election meetings were held every noon at the railway car shops, factories, etc., and open-air meetings in the evenings in the most traversed parts of the city. A drum as the means of calling the people's attention, should be just the thing for that purpose. During our campaign not less than 20,000 copies of our municipal platform were distributed right and left, besides other books or leaflets, sold or given away.

Next fall we will give the voters of Minnesota an opportunity to vote for Socialism, for the second time (the first being two years ago).

CHARLES DAVIDSON,
SAMUEL JOHNSON.

St. Paul, Minn., May 1898.

The Class Struggle in Louisville, Ky.

To THE PEOPLE.—May 1st a successful public meeting was held to protest against war in general and the American-Spanish war in particular, as being hostile to the interests of the working class and international class consciousness.

Economically, we have to announce the lock-out of the Common Beer Brewery workmen, as a result of the ultimatum of the bosses which said: "We give you ten days time to leave the union or your job." All the Common Beer Breweries are now scab breweries, and the fight is on for the preservation of the union, at which the blow is intended. The new local S. T. & L. A. has been selected by the Executive Committee of the Brewers' Union to bear the brunt of the battle, and during the last week the arbitration committee of our Alliance has been daily actively engaged in committee work for the Brewers' Union. The Alliance Committee has sent a communication to all the unions in the city calling upon them to stand by the locked out brewers in this fight and by timely and concerted action prove that "pure and simple-dom" has not quite taken all the combativeness out of them.

After the Brewers' fight is over it will be necessary for the workingmen of this city to turn their attention to the Broom Makers and Bakers of this city. The former are having a hard fight in trying to compete with convict labor.

Brooms are being made in large quantities in the Eddyville prison and thrown on the local market at prices which completely demoralize the trade.

The Bakers, in spite of the fact that they have two unions here, are working longer hours and getting poorer pay than ever before, in fact, their labor time, in many instances, is simply UNLIMITED. Yet in the face of all these facts our local labor fakir organ, the "New Era," regularly announces in glowing terms new victories (?) for "pure and simple organized labor."

Members of the S. T. & L. A., let us blow the breath of New Trade Unionism into this impotent "pure and simple" body, and awaken it to new life.

THE PRESS COMMITTEE.

Louisville, Ky., May 19.

Harry Lloyd, of Boston Town.

To THE PEOPLE.—Harry Lloyd, "president" of the Carpenters' Union of America, who is to represent the 600,000 (?) workingmen affiliated in the A. F. of L. at the next British trade union congress, has been rewarded ten days ago with another "honorable" position for his faithful work in deluding his followers in the trade union movement and helping the capitalist class. He was elected to represent Ward 22, of this city, on the Democratic ward or city committee. He also is a member of the Democratic State Committee.

This is the man who helped the miners win (?) their strike. He travelled through the mining district without a cent of expense to his union.

Mayor Josiah Quincy paid the bills, and in return this labor skate (who worked his ways on the C. L. U. committee to arrange a Hazleton massacre meeting) fixed it so that only Democrats were present and the main speech was delivered by Mayor Quincy. But Quincy is Grover Cleveland's right hand bower, and stood by him when he sent the federal troops into Illinois, and you know Quincy is a Gold bug, while Harry is a Silverite(!)

That's where some people make a mistake. Harry is nothing—nothing but a labor skate, and stands for Harry every time.

Shame on ye proletarians—members of the Carpenters' Union of America to allow such a character to raise the cry of "no politics" in your union, while he is building up a home for himself on the prestige he has by being your national president.

Nothing but the incoming tide of new trade unionism will ever drown these rats.

To arms, ye carpenters, and in the name of common sense strike these labor fakirs with the "battering ram of the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance."

ONWARD.

Boston, Mass., May 24.

Invitation to Buffalo Subscribers.

To THE PEOPLE.—The American Branch of Section Buffalo, S. L. P., wishes to invite all Buffalo readers of THE PEOPLE to attend the discussion meeting of the Branch, to be held at the Labor Lyceum, 550 Broadway, near Jefferson street, this Sunday, May the 29th, at 8 p. m. sharp.

The subject for discussion is: "Why the Socialist Labor Party endorsed the Socialist Trades and Labor Alliance."

In view of the coming convention of the S. T. & L. A., to be held in Buffalo July 4th, and on account of the latest events in the labor movement of this country, this subject deserves particular attention.

Admission is free for all. Bring family and friends along.

AM. BRANCH.

Buffalo, May 25.

LETTER BOX.

Off-hand Answers to Correspondents.

[No questions will be considered that come in anonymous letters. All letters must carry a bona fide signature and address.]

E. S., Nokomis, Ill.—Bellamy's "Equality" is, on the whole, inferior to his "Looking Backward." At least, the country is now so much further advanced than it was in '88, when "Looking Backward" appeared, that even if "Equality" were superior, as it may seem in parts, it is not sufficiently so considering the intellectual progress of the nation.

As to your other question about books asked after in a previous letter, that letter did not reach here. Repeat.

J. M., Lincoln, Neb.—The claim in the "Danish liberal paper of Omaha" that, at the late election in Denmark, the Socialist Labor party candidates there "yelled and hurrahed" for the king and royalty on the king's birthday, is a substantial misrepresentation. There was a good deal of "yelling" done, but only in derision. The following incident happened, and that is what the "Danish liberal paper of Omaha" probably misinterpreted—wilfully or otherwise: The party of the right, the extreme conservative, having all along claimed that it was the only loyal people and true patriot, a Socialist candidate sarcastically toasted the King at a meeting; everybody at the meeting understood the act as a joke on the "patriots."

As to that paper's claim that the Danish Socialists worked together with the middle classes, that also is a false way of putting it. The correct way to put it is that the Danish middle class has, to a considerable extent, sense enough to and does work with the Socialists. The Danish middle class, which is there quite large, understands that the capitalist class will crush it out and, having more sense than our American middle class, it does not join the class that will crush it and confiscate its property, it joins the class-conscious Socialist movement which will bring about freedom to all through the Co-operative Commonwealth. As the leader of the people, the Danish Socialists may thus well do all in their power to stem the hardships that crowd on a middle class that, by adopting the Socialist programme, is ready to abandon its own class interests and place itself in line with the class interests of the proletariat.

That is all there is of it.

J. A. Burleigh and others of the Single Tax Society of Philadelphia.—Your anti-war resolutions are not published because they contain not one single, solitary constructive thought. They are nothing but a string of humanistic-utopian exhalations, that might proceed from any Salvation Army gathering, or any other source that, not having its feet on the solid ground of science or fact, ignores the existence of the social class struggle, and imagines that peace on earth and good will among men can be brought about by elegantly spun phrases and sugar-plum sentiments.

Moreover, your resolutions echo allegations of fact that are false, and concoctions of the capitalist intrigue that brought on this war. The Cubans have not been engaged in a revolt, justifiable or otherwise. All that there ever was of the "revolt of the Cuban people" was in the columns of those of our capitalist journals that were paid by the Sugar and other Trusts to promote the delusion and furnish a pretext for war; and also in the reports to Spain of the Spanish Captain-Generals in Cuba, who thereby had a better chance to plunder the treasury of the island.

We have no space to promote either flapdoodlism or false history.

L. L., New Brunswick, N. J.—You ought to know that by this time. F. G. R. Gordon, of Manchester, N. H., was engaged by the S. L. P. as organizer. While drawing pay in that capacity, he was writing to party members to pull out of the S. L. P. and join the Debs Democracy. The swindle was proved to the National Executive Committee by the very letters, bearing his own signature and written in his own hand. As soon as the fact was established, his organizer's commission was withdrawn from him, and quickly thereupon he skipped the ropes to prevent expulsion. He is an all-around bad egg.

Old Boy, St. Louis, Mo.—Yes, we have heard of such cases. You will notice tho' that the alleged Socialists, who object to the party's attitude on the war with Spain, will in most cases, also object to the party's attitude on the S. T. & L. A. And it is quite natural. These people allow themselves to be bluffed. They allow the present capitalist howl to intimidate them into a pro-war posture, just as they allow the fakirs to intimidate them into a pro-fakirs' posture. Weakness in one respect will manifest itself in weakness in other respects.

T. L. W., Brooklyn, N. Y.—Yes, sir; every time. It is fundamental in human experience that the best evidence is the evidence given against one self. We give credence to and quote capitalist papers upon that principle. The testimony they bear against the capitalist system and the capitalist class may be relied on.

F. R. G., Yonkers, N. Y.—The subscription list of THE PEOPLE is increasing at the rate of over 100 a week.

"Louis," Schenectady, N. Y.—True to its "democracy," the Colonization scheme of the "Social Democracy" is kept dark from its members. The place where the colony is to be "located," the amount that will cost, and even the full list of its Directors—all that continues to be withheld from the members. Rumor has it tho' that the silver mine owner Hearst, who recently raised the price of his "Journal" on the New York newsboys, is one of the Directors whose "names are still withheld."

G. G., Boston, Mass.—McKinley has been called the "Syndicated President," because three capitalists, Mark Hanna of them, to whom he was heavily indebted, syndicated their claim upon him, and started the boom that landed him in the White House, and in that way sought to get their money back. The nickname did not originate in this office.

"American," N. Y.—No wonder you can't find in the New York "Press" the false report it gave of the Socialist indignation meeting, at Cooper Union, quoted in these columns last week. The paper seemed afraid to utter the lie in the city. We have subsequently ascertained that the report appeared in the "Jersey Edition" only. It was meant for outside consumption only.

Mass Meeting and Entertainment
—GIVEN BY THE—
Wendell Phillips Agitating Soc'y
For the purpose of raising a
CAMPAIGN FUND OF THE S. L. P.
on THURSDAY, June 9th, '98,
at 77—79 Essex St.
Speakers LUCIEN SANIAL, WM. EDLIN, ANDREW M. CONTRERAS, a Cuban, H. HUGHES of Brooklyn, WRIGHT BROS. and the Windsor Dramatic Co. will take part in the Entertainment. 338
Tickets, incl. Hatchecks, 10 Cts.

The Annual Meeting of the Stockholders of the Barton Mfg. Co. for the election of directors for the ensuing year, will be held at the office of the company, No. 338 Broadway, Manhattan, New York city, on the 21st day of June, 1898, at 1 o'clock in the afternoon. E. E. BARTON, Secretary.
Dated, Mai 20th, 1898. 337

The Scand. Soc Dem. Club of Boston will arrange its 5th GRAND PICNIC in AMORY GROVE, Roxbury, on DECORATION DAY, Monday, May 30th, 1898.
CHAS. TECHE of Nat. Ex. Com. of the S. L. P. will speak.
Sports and games with prizes for ladies and gentlemen. Singing by the Scand. Soc. Dem. Chorus and German Soc. Sing. Sect. of Boston.
Exhibition by the Swedish and Norwegian Gymnastic Clubs. Dancing from 2 to 9 P. M. Lunches and beverages. 339
Genta tickets 50 Cts. Ladies 25Cts.

HILLKOWITZ & HILLQUIT
Attorneys at Law,
220 Broadway. Rooms 1214—1218

H. B. SALISBURY, Attorney-at-Law.
Office for Consultation (Tuesday to Friday, 11 to 5) 50 Union Square, (offices of Workingmen's Co-operative Insurance Ass'n, etc.) New York.

DR. C. L. FURMAN,
DENTIST, 188
121 SCHERMERHORN ST., BROOKLYN, N. Y.

JOHN OEHLER'S Steam Printing.
87 Frankfort Street 87
Cor. Pearl St.,
Franklin Square E. R. R. Station
Orders will be taken at 116 E. 8th street, betw Avenue A and First Ave., New York City. 141

I. Goldmann's Printing Office,
cor. New Chambers and William Sts.
works with Type Setting Machine
German and English.

BROOKLYN
LABOR LYCEUM,
949—955 Willoughby Av.
(Formerly 61-63 Myrtle Street.)
Meeting Rooms. Large Hall for Mass Meetings. Books open for Balls and Pic-Nics.
Workmen Patronize Your Own Home!

THE DEBATE.

(Continued.)

NEW YORK CITY, April 24, 1898.

Debate of the Boot and Shoe Workers' Union (A. F. of L.) versus the General Council of Shoe Workers (S. T. & L. A), at Teutonia Hall, 16th street and 3rd avenue, New York City, April 24, 1894.

Participants:

John F. Tobin, and

Frank A. Sieverman,

representing the Boot and Shoe Workers Union;

William L. Brower, and

Daniel De Leon,

representing the General Council of Shoe Workers.

The meeting was called to order by Miss Katie Pryor, Secretary of the General Council of Shoeworkers.

SIEVERMAN:—Let me say, to begin with, Mr. Chairman and fellow shoe workers and wageworkers, that I wish to dispose of one question to begin with, and that is that I will answer for my right to wear a red button and for my right to carry a red card and for my right to work as a Socialist, to no individual. In the locality from whence I hail, my position as a Socialist is well known. It may be customary for the members of the Socialist Labor party here to owe allegiance and make obeisance to this gentleman [pointing to De Leon], but I carefully refrain; I respectfully decline. I know my position in the labor movement, and I do not hesitate to say that before I get through with this little discourse I will define where I stand, but I will say it does not come in reply to the interrogation of the gentleman. He has no more right to question my record in the labor movement than I have his. My record in the labor movement is not a recent growth; it is since I was able to toddle into a union and take part in union affairs that I have been a member of the revolutionary class-conscious army. Having done this all my life, I expect to do it until the end. I expect to do it until the end in spite of all people can do to oust me. I am going to be here until the finish; I am going to be in the S. L. P. until the finish, until there is a waving of the international flag of Socialism through the world; I am going to continue in the S. L. P. until that time approaches, in spite of all who do not agree with me, who do not like my statements and the color of my hair; in spite of all. So much by way of digression and in answer to the question.

Let us first take up my friend, Mr. Brower. He makes certain statements that are unqualified falsehoods. He says that when a member of the Shoe Council of New York came to Rochester I, in my capacity as agent, repudiated that card. That is absolutely and unqualifiedly a falsehood. If the man who represented himself to be a member of this organization, and who used the worst kind of Billingsgate about the movement in this city, and who no doubt was a fair representative of the genus tramp, if he was an honest Socialist, he was a first-class scallawag, that was prepared to offer any kind of excuse in order to get out of paying one cent of dues into any organization; he would have nothing more to do with them; he came from Brooklyn and saw the fallacy of it, but when I told him that he had no choice in the matter, then did he hide himself behind the Shoe Council of this city; and upon the statement of this man, Comrade Brower, upon the statement of this man who comes from this city, you take his word, though unsubstantiated and uncorroborated, you hold me up to the public ridicule of every Socialist in this city, in this country that reads THE PEOPLE. There it is made to appear that I have been guilty of some things that a Socialist ought to be ashamed of, and I have never done that, nor will I ever do that. I advised this man, in view of the statements that he made, I advised him not to disconnect himself from the Shoeworkers' Council, and I hoped that he would by his presence and by his co-operation and by his assistance do all he could to make this movement a success. That is what I said to your member and I expressed scrrow to him that I was unable to take him into our organization. He paid $1.00 initiation fee, and before the week expired I went down to our organization and placed the case before them, and then said, in future this organization will initiate anybody that holds another card in another organization, provided his card is square; and when I went back to this man, he was gone; he had taken up his tramp. Now because I was unable to bring him in and continue his membership here and get him in there also without any cost, I am held up to the public ridicule, probably with the expectation that Sieverman would consider it the last straw that would break the camel's back and get out of the S. L. P. But I tell you it takes more than one statement in THE PEOPLE or any other publication that will drive me out of the Socialist Labor party.

Now I want to say to you that my intention in coming here is not so much for the purpose of dwelling upon the objects of the Trades Union, as for the purpose of showing that we are an organization that is headed in the direction of Socialism; for the other Council is a manifest and complete failure. You can go down into the headquarters of the Boot and Shoeworkers' Union, and you won't find an American flag waving over the picture of General Fitzhugh Lee; you won't find them there, but here in the headquarters of the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance, most assuredly you will find them, and see the officers neglecting other matters to discuss the more important subject of whether the Cubans will whip the Spaniards or not.

But when we are able to show to you that three years ago when the conference was called of shoeworkers through this country, when we found that by simply organizing isolated trades we were going down and down, and when the shoeworkers realized the importance of forming an organization that recognized at least some of the principles of solidarity, we issued a call to every shoemaker in this country to meet in Boston in 1895. Comrade Tobin responded to the call. Comrade Brower (Section New York certainly has cause to be proud of his course, because while Secretary Tobin was on to Boston with a Socialist programme in his pocket, what was Brower doing? He was printing this insignificant Labor Day Souvenir that our friend De Leon makes fun of, and calling the attention of the Shoeworkers to the fact that you have got such gigantic machinery!) Class-conscious, surely! It is manifested in the course of Comrade Brower when we put it opposite the course of Comrade Tobin. Comrade Tobin went to the City of Boston, and there helped to formulate the Boot and Shoeworkers' Union; there he tried to get that union started on progressive lines, and although he was defeated by an overwhelming majority, he stood as a father and sponsor of that resolution; and he was as father and sponsor of that resolution elected President of the Union. And what as a result? We see that THE PEOPLE published in its issue at that time a long article rejoicing because this Union has shown a distinct sign of progress. We are glad that Comrade Tobin is elected President of the Boot and Shoeworkers' Union, as a Socialist, in 1895! What has transpired since that should change the views of our friends on the other side? Since that time from this organization has come absolute, straight Socialist declarations, defended by Socialists with all the power and all the eloquence and fire at their command; at each succeeding convention of the Boot and Shoe Workers' Union there was an increasing number of votes for those Socialist declarations of principle, and at every succeeding election our friend Comrade Tobin was returned and returned as the head of that organization. In the ordinary course of things should not that have added to the pleasure experienced by the management of THE PEOPLE in 1895? But in the meantime "we" organized a little Mutual Admiration Society; "we" have found ourselves unable to capture these organizations, unable to deliver the goods for which bargains were made, such as editorships, and so forth, and "we" come to New York and do what? and "we" come to New York and take the tag end of that organization which was organized five years ago and "we" organize it into the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance; "we" call that the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance, and henceforth there is a new qualification for a Socialist; henceforth there is a new test: you must subscribe to this S. T. & L. A.; you must say that is the only trades union or organization in which Socialists are made. Comrade De Leon says that I threw all the light possible against the Alliance in the Convention of the S. L. P. He tells a falsehood. It is true that I threw all the light possible on that question, but I had just ten minutes, and when that ten minutes expired, it was the gentleman that preceded me, who, when he saw delegates coming toward me with the evident intention of supporting me, rose quickly in his seat with a parliamentary trick, and notified the Chair that the time for adjournment had arrived; and the next day when I looked for those men who wanted to give me time the day before, they were not to be found. What was the interference? That they had been "seen."

I have some time to throw light upon this question to-day; I have as much time as anyone. We say we view this question from the standpoint of Socialists. We say it is the duty of Socialists to go out in the labor movement and make Socialists just as speedily as we can do so, and any labor movement which will give us the opportunity of entering the field and advocating Socialism or propagating progressive ideas, that is the place for a Socialist. But no, these people say it must not be so; you can only be a class-conscious, thorough-going Socialist, unhampered and unstained with a stigma of hate, if you hold a card in the S. T. & L. A.

Comrade Tobin stated that the endorsement of the S. T. & L. A. was secured by false pretences. The gentleman who preceded answers that it is passing effrontery, to make that statement. I say it is so. On the floor of the Convention I raised the question and I warned the delegates that this meant there would be a new qualification for Socialists; that only such would be looked upon as Socialists that would withdraw themselves from their respective organizations and connect themselves with the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance; and men who favored the S. T. & L. A. said that is not so; "Sieverman has misconstrued the fact; we believe here is our position," and this is the statement that they made and I challenge contradiction within the lines of truth. They said at that Convention, Mr. Hugo Vogt, who, I believe, is one of the shining lights and champions of the Socialist Labor party, he said, "I believe there are 150,000 shoemakers in this country, and you claim 12,000. What about the other 138,000?" He said, "Do you claim a monopoly on them?" I said, "Certainly not." He said, "this is the motive of the S. T. & L. A.; we can get the unorganized; we shall hammer the fakirs on the head; we shall do all we can to down the fakirs,"—a theory and a determination which I am entirely in sympathy with. Now there appears in the issue of THE PEOPLE a week ago a statement in answer to "True Friend" by which it appears that the S. T. & L. A. MUST succeed; it says that the S. T. & L. A. MUST succeed the present movement, etc. I want that to go into the record to have it understood that the theory of the S. T. & L. A. differs to-day very materially from that which was promised on the floor of the Convention. On the floor of that Convention the unorganized were to be taken care of; now we have got to hammer down the organized. In spite of the fact that three years have passed since there was a joyful article in THE PEOPLE, "We have been making progress in the direction of Socialism," and about we Socialists filling a convention.

We are not prepared to apologize for our standing in the labor movement. We say that the Boot and Shoeworkers' Union is the organization that is best qualified of any economic organization to protect the interests of our organization. I say the standing of our officers, the repeated declarations of our conventions from time to time, is a sufficient guarantee that we are not political skates, and a notice that nobody can do business with its responsible officers other than candidates on the Socialist Labor party ticket. This is evident, and still in spite of all that was stated on the floor of the S. L. P. Convention, here we are called upon to defend our right to come to the City of New York and organize the unorganized. How many years have the S. T. & L. A. been active in bettering your condition in this city? I have it upon fairly good authority that whenever there is an advertisement that the S. T. & L. A. is going to have a debate, and especially when Daniel De Leon is going to speak on the affirmative side, they turn out in force. Where are they to-day? Comrade Brower informed me yesterday that three of them, three of the committee that were on the S. T. & L. A. side, were so busy discussing the Cuban question that they did not have time to make arrangements for this meeting. Class-conscious! I believe that if you asked the average member of the Boot and Shoeworkers' Union what he thinks of the Cuban question, he would say, "Is it good without salt?"

A gentleman has also asked whether we believe in the declaration of the International Socialist Congress. I wish to place myself as unqualifiedly agreeing with what is said in that International Congress, and with them I do not beleive in the foolishness of engaging in an economic struggle in not permitting each Socialist to enter that labor organization where he thinks he can do the most good; and the economic organization to which I belong, in that we are promulgating no other than Socialist ideas; and this organization did to my knowledge, and I believe I may say proudly, with my assistance, place in the pockets of certain wage workers in this country the little insignificant sum of $75,000 per annum. I hold in my hand THE PEOPLE of Sunday, September 6, 1896, and here is an article headed, "Duty of Trade Unions," and this trade union article reads as follows: "In order to make the trades union as effective as possible they are commanded to organize as national trades unions in their respective countries, thus avoiding the waste of power by small individual or local organizations. Especially difference of political views ought not to be considered a reason for separation in the economic struggle. On the other hand, the nature of the class struggle makes it the duty of the labor organizations to educate their several members up to the principles of Social Democracy." [Applause from Winchewsky, Cahan, Casson, Modest, etc.] This is the position which has been taken by the International Congress, and that says distinctly that difference of political belief should not keep us from organizing; but here the Boot and Shoeworkers' Union, because we do not belong to the S. T. & L. A., since our organization does not recognize the importance, the supremacy of the S. T. & L. A., we are howled down as a fake organization, inuendoes are hurled out here by the responsible editor of THE PEOPLE that possibly there is some money consideration in this thing—men who have spent all their lives, all their hopes for the purpose of being on the same political side, denounced for no other reason than because they do not join this little Mutual Admiration Society! Now is that the kind of tactics calculated to advance the Socialist movement, to give us the largest and best organization attainable under modern conditions? I do not think it is.

I have referred to the United Brewers' Federation. In the City of Rochester, where I live, up to a few days ago, there was controlled by the Knights of Labor Brewers every brewery in that city, the men were working at from $9 to $11 a week, and less for the drivers, and whoever some saloon-keeper or ward politician recommended got a job; there was an agreement which made absolutely no provision as to wages, but simply stated that the employees of the brewery should be members of the Knights of Labor. Now my friends of the United Brewers' trade came into the City of Rochester, and what did they do? They took the economic organization that had some strength in this country, and they said to this organization, "Gentlemen, you are organized labor; we desire that you shall desist from consuming the Rochester product, until we have compelled these people to give us good wages, and as a result, without a strike of one single day, we curtailed the product of that institution five-sixths. Instead of being sold through the country to these people who belong to the American Federation of Labor, instead of being sold in Baltimore, and Philadelphia, and in Chicago, and in Boston and St. Louis, and everywhere where there is an organization; instead of drinking their beer they notified these beer dealers that unless they bettered conditions they would cease to handle their product, and as a result not a single brewer in Rochester is working for less than $13 a week, not a single cellar-man is working for less than $15 a week. The National Brewers' Union fought the capitalists in the city of Rochester and reduced their bank accounts $75,000 per annum, and turned over the money to the brewers. Do you think that is worth striving for? Do you think that can be accomplished in a mere Mutual Admiration Society? in which you have no outside support? I stand here as an unqualified critic of the American Federation of Labor, and I say that until we have successfully ousted the fakirs out of that great organization, until we have gone to the head of that organization and placed there honest men, reliable men, Socialists in fact, I say until that time, as sensible men, as class-conscious men, we must avail ourselves of the force that is in that organization. I tell you it is ridiculous nonsense to assume that an organization is of no earthly use or consequence because its leaders are corrupt; it is a piece of nonsense. I tell you that a trades union is the first manifestation of class-consciousness, involuntary sometimes, but from the fact that it is a trades union, hides itself in a closed room and discussses a question that is to their interests and against the interests of the boss, I say it is a manifestation of class-consciousness, and it is our duty as Socialists to stay in these part-conscious organizations and open their eyes to the true situation. They are better material to make Socialists of than a lot of people who have not got sufficient interest in their own interests to even organize. We pay four cents per year, however, to Mr. Sam Gompers towards salary, and because of that we should get out of that trades union movement, think the people of the S. T. & L. A., but I tell you that we must stay in the American Federation of Labor until we can capture that organization for the Socialist movement, and I do not anticipate that that time is far distant.

Comrade De Leon says that our organization is built on quicksands, and proves it by the fact that we go down and come up smiling. Well, we know the Council of Shoeworkers has gone down, but it has not come up since then, smiling or otherwise.

Mr. De Leon also says that he has sympathy for a man who is driven into scabbery because that is a necessity, but he has no sympathy for anyone who is a born scab. That is a new idea for a Socialist; a man is a scab because he is a born scab, just like a negro is black because he is born black. Well, if a man is born a scab, he certainly cannot help it; he has no choice in the matter. We at least ought to have some sort of sympathy for the poor fellow that is born so inferior. Now the facts are that the first manifestation of consciousness is to find that everybody's course is prompted by his environment. If his environment is such as to arouse his hostility to a labor organization, he will divorce himself from that movement; and nobody knows it better than Mr. De Leon and the members of the Socialist Labor party generally.

Mr. Brower lays stress upon the fact that this huge giant Ross is responsible for the loss of a strike. The great distress for an opportunity to labor cuts no more figure; it is because Ross, R—O—S—S it is because Ross goes from the packing room into another that we lost that strike! What nonsense!!

Let me say when you come into the Boot and Shoeworkers' Union you are going to lose strikes, and in the Council also, right straight along, but we maintain and we prove that by maintaining an economic organization with the largest possible number striving for a solution of this question, we are, always will be, better off than if we have no organization at all. [Applause.]

OUR TRAITORS.

(Continued from Page 1.)

returned and interest besides; but the enlisted soldier's life or health is not to be returned to his dear ones, and, of course, no interest on top of that. If the purpose is, as is claimed, simply to raise money in defence of the nation, then let that money be raised in such way as may benefit the nation, and as the nation has a right to. What that manner is can be easily ascertained by the light of the views of the noblest and wisest of all the Revolutionary Fathers—Benjamin Franklin. He said: 'Private wealth is the creature of Society, and Society has a right to the last farthing of that wealth whenever Society is in need of that creature of itself—PRIVATE WEALTH.' Let it be taxed into the coffers of Society. Tus life would, at least, not be treated more cheaply than wealth. What is consumed of either by Society in Society's defence would be a just sacrifice."

Do the Silverites hold this language? No. They dare not. They want a market for their silver. Admit that wealth is the creature of Society and at Society's disposal whenever needed would be a denial of the basic principle upon which Silverites, no less than Goldites, stand; to wit, the principle that the product of Society does not belong to its creator but to those who have succeeded in stealing it; which is another way of defining capitalism.

Agreed upon this fraudulent principle, the Silverites and Goldites in Congress are engaged in battle not to protect the Nation but to draw out of the Nation's troubles such advantage as each can; and as their interests conflict they are "debating."

The Roman soldiers at the foot of Calvary contented themselves to throw dice for the Vestments that were not enough "to go round"; the Praetorian Guard in Congress, less easily satisfied, are rending one another for the Vestment of the crucified Nation.

THE DAILY PEOPLE
$50,000 FUND.

Amount Pledged down to May 25th, 1898.

$4,575.

☞ Pledgers will please keep in mind the dates on which their payments fall due, as per printed list, and remit promptly. If any error appears on the list, correct with equal promptness.

THE DAILY PEOPLE COMMITTEE.
184 William St., N. Y.

GRAND PIC NIC
—OF THE—
WEST SIDE ASSEMBLY DISTRICTS, S. L. P.

ON Pfingst Sunday, May 29.

Prize Bowling and Prize Shooting for Gentlemen.

Wheel of Fortune.

Dancing.

AT Hudson County Park, cor. 5th St. and Bergenline Av., Union Hill, N. J.

Strict Union Arrangements.

Music by L. A. No. 3, S. T. & L. A.

Outing Speech by J. ALLMAN, and with the kind assistance of the allied singing Societies and the Zither Class of the Free German School of the Westside.

For the Benefit of the Election Fund.

TICKETS, 10 Cents a Person. ALL ARE WELCOME.

☞ Hudson County Park can be reached from 42d Str. and 14th Str., Christopher and Barclay Str. Ferries, direct to the Park. 336

Grand Family Pic Nic
—TO BE HELD BY—
Section Philadelphia, S. L. P.,
for the Benefit of the Campaignfund,
MONDAY, May 30th, 1898, (Decoration Day) at
DAVIS FARM (Mill St. Branchtown),
only 5 minutes walk from the Willow Grove Cars of the 4th and 8th Street, and 13th and 15th Street Lines.
A Committee will be present at Mill St. 334

OFFICIAL.

SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY.

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE—Secretary Henry Kuhn, 184 William street, N. Y.

NATIONAL BOARD OF APPEALS — Secretary Robert Bandlow, 193 Champlain St., Cleveland, O.

NOTICE.—For technical reasons, no party announcements can go in that are not in this office by Tuesdays, 10 p. m.

National Executive Committee.

Session of May 24th, with Comrade Stahl in the chair. The financial report for the week ending May 21st showed receipts to have been $27.15; expenditures $47.41; deficit for the week, $20.26. A committee from the C. L. F. appeared, presenting a grievance of the pressmen against the "Abendblatt." The committee was asked to put the matter in writing and the Executive Committee would then investigate. A letter was read from Section Evergreen, setting forth that the section had no intention of ignoring the Board of Appeals, but had turned the matter over to the Queens County Committee where it had been delayed on account of the May Day parade. The secretary was instructed to inform the section that they must themselves answer the complaint, because the only clause of the constitution that refers at all to a case of this kind (Art. II, Sec. 13), speaks only of sections divided into branches, while Section Evergreen is a section itself. A call was ordered for a vote on the nominations for delegate to the National Convention of the S. T. & L. A., the candidates being comrades Avery, Keep and Morgan. Comrade Hickey reported as to his work in Massachusetts.

A request from Section Yonkers that letterheads be printed for the sections was considered inexpedient and decided adversely.

L. A. MALKIEL, Rec. Sec'y.

General Vote.

The Sections of the Socialist Labor party are hereby called upon to forthwith proceed to vote upon the below candidates for delegate to the National Convention of the S. T. & L. A. to be held in Buffalo, N. Y., on July 4, 1898. The candidates who have accepted the nomination are: AVERY, MARTHA MOORE, of Boston, Mass.; KEEP, ARTHUR, of Washington, D. C.; and MORGAN, THOMAS G., of Chicago, Ill.

The following comrades were also nominated but declined: Lucien Sanial, Fred. Long, J. Mahlon Barnes, Thomas A. Hickey, Hugo Vogt, Daniel De Leon, Joseph Manning and Matthew Maguire.

Organizers will please note that the vote must be reported in figures, and in figures only, and that statements to the effect that the section has voted "unanimously" for this or that candidate, without stating the vote cast, cannot be accepted. The vote closes on TUESDAY, JUNE 28th, the day of the last meeting of the National Executive preceding the convention. All reports not at hand on that date cannot be counted. Only one delegate is to be sent and members vote for only one candidate of the three.

Organizers will please submit this matter at the next meeting of their respective sessions, see to it that the vote is taken and report the result without delay.

By order of the National Executive Committee, S. L. P.,
HENRY KUHN, Sec'y.

Connecticut.

The annual State Convention of the S. L. P., State of Connecticut, will be held on Monday, May 30th, at Auror Hall, 135 Union street, New Haven, beginning at 9 a. m. The order of business is:

Report of State Committee and Sections.

Nomination of candidates for the fall campaign.

Best means and ways to carry on agitation for the coming year.

Date and place of next State Convention.

Seat of next State Committee.

F. SERRER.

Massachusetts.

ATTENTION BOSTON!

The Scandinavian Socialist Club of Boston will arrange a grand pic-nic at Armory Grove, Roxbury, on Decoration Day. Comrade Chas. Teche, of New York, will be the speaker. Besides sports and games, singing and gymnastic exhibition. Watch advertisement in this issue.

Michigan.

DETROIT.—A grand open labor meeting will be held at Trades Council Hall in Hilsendegen Bl'k, corner Monroe avenue and Randolph st., under auspices of the State Committee, S. L. P., on Sunday, May 29, at 3 p. m. L. H. Chappel, of Plymouth, and other good speakers will address the meeting. Subjects: 1. Who Should be a Socialist? 2. The positions of the Capitalists and of the Workers respectively towards the War.

Missouri.

ST. LOUIS.—The Eleventh Congressional District, Socialist Labor Party, will hold a convention on Tuesday evening, June the 7th, cor. 20th and Penrose streets, in Union Pleasure Club Hall. None but comrades in good standing will be entitled to a voice and vote in the convention. JULIUS KNOBLE,
Sec'y of the Committee on Call.

New York.

Branch 2, Thirty-second and Thirty-third Assembly District. Meeting of May 20, 1898. Comrade Cooper in the chair. Several comrades from the Thirty-third appeared and requested to form a joint organization for both districts. Five new members were accepted. Comrade Milch resigned as delegate to the General Committee and Comrade F. C. Fulling elected in his place. Committeeen elected to look for a hall and also to see the Thirty-fourth and Thirty-fifth Assembly Districts about organizing "The Harlem Agitation Committee. All members were instructed to pay up their dues in the old district and to pay in this branch beginning this month.

Next meeting of the Branch is on the first Friday in June, 8 p. m., at 172 East 107th street, 1st floor.

PARLIAMENTS OF LABOR.

General Executive Board, S. T. & L. A.

At the last meeting J. Schlossberg was chairman.

Charter was granted to the Egg Candlers' Union.

Max Weber, of Buffalo, N. Y., sent notice that the Convention would be held at Fillmore Hall, 963 Broadway, and the Secretary was instructed to issue a call and credentials to the affiliated bodies.

R. Schwemmer, Kneestakers' Alliance, Johnstown, N. Y., wrote that the office of President had been abolished and that all future communications should be audressed to him at 115 Washington avenue.

W. H. Thomas, Buena Vista, Pa., explained the urgent necessity of sending an agitator through the mining districts. A good field was open for earnest agitation. It was resolved to seek information from the N. E. C., S. L. P., as to what comrade could attend to this.

H. Ulbricht, Detroit, Mich., wrote that after many attempts he had succeded in organizing the Core Makers. At a later meeting the proposition to join the S. T. & L. A. would be made.

B. Schlessinger, Chicago, Ill., wrote that the United Hebrew Trades there applied for a charter. Granted as soon as the $5 fee is received.

Progressive Musical Union, of Brooklyn, was again requested to carry out the former decision and join D. A. No. 2.

It was announced that D. A. 49 had organized the Kard Marx Club and a charter was granted.

The next meeting will be held Wednesday, June 1st, at 64 E. Fourth street, 8 P. M.

Trades and Societies Calendar.

Standing advertisements of Trades Unions and other Societies (not exceeding five lines) will be inserted under this heading hereafter, at the rate of $5.00 per annum.

Organizations should not lose such an opportunity of advertising their places of meetings

Carl Sahm Club (Musicians Union). Meetings every Tuesday at 10 a. m., at 64 East 4th street, New York Labor Lyceum. Business Secretary: Frei. 89

Central Labor Federation of New York (S. T. & L. A., D. A. No. 1). Meets at 2.30 every Sunday afternoon at 64 East 4th street, New York City. All bona-fide trade and labor Unions should be represented. Communications are to be sent to the corresponding Secretary, Ernest Bohm, 64 East 4th street, New York City. 22

Cigarmakers' Progressive International Union No. 90. Office and Employment Bureau: 64 East 4th street.—District I (Bohemian), 234 East 71st street, every Saturday at 8 p. m.—District II (German), at 213 Forsyth St., meets every Saturday at 8 p. m.—District III, meets at 1537 avenue A, every Saturday at 8 p. m.—District IV, meets at 342 West 42nd street, every Saturday at 8 p. m.—The Board of Supervisors meets every Tuesday at 1423 2nd avenue, at 8 p. m. 26

Empire City Lodge (Machinists), meets every 2d and 4th Wednesday evening at the Labor Lyceum, 64 East 4th street.
273 Secretary: PETER STAPLE.

German Waiters' Union of New York, Office: 385 Bowery, Union Hall, 1st floor. Meetings every Friday at 4 p. m. Board of Supervisors meets every Wednesday at 4 p. m., at the same hall. 334

Musical Protective Alliance No. 1038, and D. A. 49, S. T. & L. A., Headquarters 79 E. 4th street. Meetings every Friday at 12 o'clock noon. Fred. Hartmann, Pres.; Fred. Woll, corr. Sec'y, 79 E. 4th St. J. S. Krings, Business agent. 343

Metal Spinners Union of New York and Vicinity meets every second and last Friday in the month at 8½ o'clock at 231-233 E. 33d Street. 266

Section Essex County, S. L. P., meets the first Sunday in each month at 8 p. m. in the hall of "Essex County Socialist Club," 76 Springfield Ave., Newark, N. J. 139

Skandinavian Section, S. L. P. Meets 2nd and 4th Sunday of every month at 10.30 o'clock a.m., at Teutonia Assembly Rooms, 158—160 3. Ave., New York City. Subscription orders taken for the Scand. Socialist Weekly, SCAND. AM ARBETAREN.

Socialist Science Club, S. L. P., 34th 35th A. D. S. E. Cor. of 3d Av. and 1st St. Open every evening. Regular business meeting every Friday.

Progressive Clothing Cutters & Trimmers Union, L. A. 68 of S. T. & L. A.—Headquarters, 64 East 4th street, Labor Lyceum.—Regular meeting every Thursday evening, at 8 P. M. 305

Workingmen's Children's Death Benefit Fund of the U. S. of America.—The Executive Board meets every second Wednesday in the month, at 8 o'clock P. M., in H. Tiedts Hall, bet. 31st and 32d St., Second Ave. Financial Secretary: Reinhard Lachner, 319 West 44th street. 333

Allgemeine Kranken- und Sterbe-Kasse für die Ver. Staaten von Amerika.

WORKMEN'S
Sick and Death Benefit Fund of the United States of America.

The above society was founded in the year 1884 by workingmen imbued with the spirit of solidarity and socialist thought. Its numerical strength (at present composed of 155 local branches with more than 16,000 male members) is rapidly increasing among workingmen who believe in the principles of the modern labor movement. Workingmen between 18 and 45 years of age may be admitted to membership in any of the branches, upon payment of a deposit of $4.00 for the first class and $3.00 for the second class. Members belonging to the first class are entitled to a sick benefit of $9.00 for 40 weeks, and of $4.50 for another 40 weeks whether continuous or with intermission. Members belonging to the second class receive under the same circumstances and length of time $6.00 and $3.00 respectively. A burial benefit of $250.00 is granted for every member, and the wives and unmarried daughters of members between 18 and 45 years of age may be admitted to the burial benefit upon payment of a deposit of $1.00. Monthly taxes are levied according to expenditures. In cities and towns where no branch exists, a new branch can be formed by 25 workingmen in good health, and men adhering to the above principles are invited to do so.

Address all communications to HENRY STAHL, Financial Secretary, 25—27 3rd avenue, Room 53, New York City.

WORKMEN'S
Furniture Fire Insurance.

Organized 1872. Membership 10,000.
Principal Organization, New York and Vicinity.

OFFICE: 64 East Fourth street. Office hours, daily, except Sundays and holidays, from 1 to 9 o'clock P. M.

BRANCHES: Yonkers, Troy Binghamton, Gloversville, Elmira, Albany, Oneida, N. Y. Paterson, Newark, Elizabeth, South River Passaic and Trenton, N. J.

Manchester, N. H.

Boston, Holyoke, Springfield, Mass.

New Haven, Waterbury, Meriden and Hartford, Conn.

Philadelphia, Pittsburg, Allegheny, Lancaster, Altoona, Pa.

Chicago, Ill. 339

For addresses of the Branch-bookkeepers see "Vorwärts."

„Down with Slavery"
THE GREATEST REVOLUTIONARY SONG EVER WRITTEN.

Words by Percy B. Shelly. Music by Pietro Brounoff. Every comrade should secure a copy. PRICE 10 CENTS. Address

FRED. BENNETTS,
119 Beech St., Yonkers, N. Y.

Copyright held by Section Yonkers.